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Chaplains
OF THE FIFTH ARMY



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AMERICAN CHAPLAINS

OF

THE FIFTH ARMY

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This history is dedicated to the loving memory of those American Chaplains of the Fifth Army, who so nobly lived and died for their country and for their God:

ROBERT E. ALSPAUGH

JOHN P. HUGHES

HOKE S. BELL

ARTHUR C. LENAGHAN

WILLIAM S. CONTINO

HARLEY R. McDANIEL

JAMES P. FLYNN

HARRY MONTGOMERY

JOSEPH A. GILMORE

ARVIL E. TEEM

CLARENCE J. HAGAN

EUNACE A. WALLACE



« May they rest in Peace and may Light perpetual shine upon them ».

OXToby

24 Aug 47

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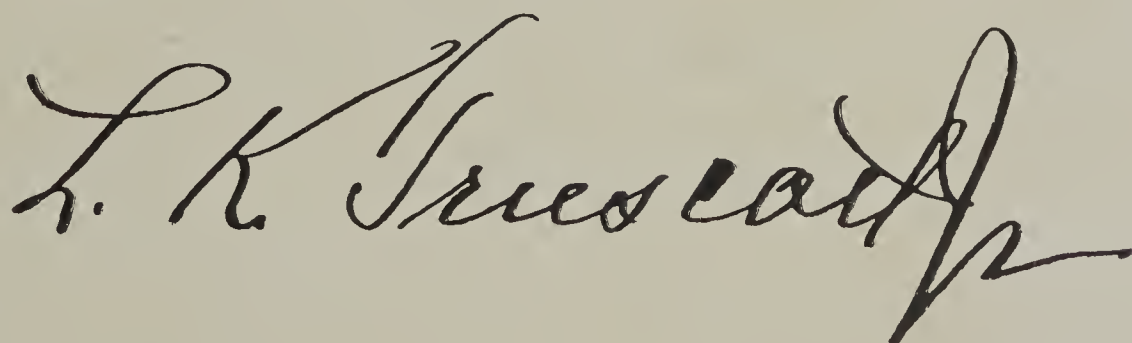
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With the cessation of hostilities in Europe, the combat activities of the Fifth Army in Italy come to an end. The story of the long struggle up the « Boot » to final victory is a saga of brilliant achievements, deeply embedded in the memories of the thousands of men who took part in the campaign and who made its successful conclusion a reality, and written in history as one of the most glorious chapters in the life of our nation. But the story of the Fifth Army in Italy cannot be set down for the edification of all without tribute to the Chaplains of this well-knit combat machine. While all Chaplains of our Army serve in an indispensable capacity, it is the combat Chaplain who in particular renders a work that holds him up as an individual to be admired. And in a singular way, the Fifth Army Chaplains are combat Chaplains. From the inception of the Fifth Army in Africa, in the landings at Salerno, throughout the struggle up the length of Italy, till the guns were silenced on the Austrian border, the Chaplains added much to the final success of the Italian campaign. Their outstanding efforts in bringing the benefits of religion to the front lines as well as to the rear areas, their ministrations to the wounded and dying, and above all their personal conduct as men of God, living with the Fifth Army men as one of them, courageous and inspirational, through all the manifold hardships of the campaign, effectively contributed to the high morale prevalent amongst all units. To have served with them is an honor and a privilege and evokes praise of a job well done.

The story of the Fifth Army Chaplains can never be completely told. There are a thousand and one things that will ever remain hidden: some in the hearts of men served, others in the memory of those who have paid the supreme sacrifice and have passed into a soldier's Valhalla, where the tales of valor and deeds of mercy rest with the immortals.

But there are some things that can be told. Those things have been written in this History. In a small way, it is a tribute to our Chaplains, and may it be to all who read it a source of inspiration and pride, as it has been to us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "L. K. Truesdale". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.



CHAPLAIN EDWARD MARTIN READS BURIAL SERVICE AT GRAVE OF CHAPLAIN
ARTHUR C. LENAGHAN

Introduction

The history does not presume to give a detailed account of events or personalities, because of the lack of detailed information concerning the individual chaplain. The most that we hope to do is to write an account for our chaplains that will enable each to get a general idea of what other units were doing coincident with the activities of his own group, and to gain a general appreciation of the scope and magnitude of the problems and experiences faced by the chaplains of the Fifth Army.

As our Army went about its work of conquest — living, fighting, dying, after the best traditions of men buying with their life's blood something worth the price — the chaplains were there with them — living, serving, sustaining, and dying too — after the best and highest traditions of their calling.

Among any group of men so large in number — though bearing the unifying stamp of a common profession — motives for entry into the service may be assumed to have varied as widely as the characters and motives of the men composing it. Yet in general, we may say that the spirit that permeates the record of their actions as here set down was truly the living spirit shared so much by all that it may fairly be attributed to *THE CHAPLAIN*, as the men in the foxholes knew him. They knew him too in the assembly areas, the artillery positions, the C. P.'s, and the O. P.'s, along roads, hot and dusty, in blinding snow, amid sticky mud, in stinking places, festering with death. In the hospitals he brought a ministry of love and tenderness, the love and tenderness of God, and of the folks back home. Even when the fighting was hottest and physical danger riding its highest tide, always he came with the services and ministry of the God who calls to peace and rest, even in the midst of the horror and crying of war.

Too much testimony in spontaneous high praise has been poured out of G. I. hearts, speaking frankly, to be doubted. It is not too much to say that when the Chaplain was needed he was there. When the smoke of battle cleared and hot hearts became cool to reflect, decorations, citations and high honor went to those demonstrated to have been heroes in truth. And when the roll of the heroes was called, the Chaplain was there too. If the emphasis was a different one in the part he played,

yet the soldier recognized his heroism as of the same calibre as that of the fighting man, who advanced the line against the enemy by skillful wielding of a weapon. Combat soldiers have been known to put it on a higher plane than that! Nor can we doubt the sincerity of men who literally went the whole way in a holocaust of world proportions that they might not miss one opportunity for service to men in the Name of the God, whose call to a career of service they had answered.

Of the host of chaplains in Fifth Army, there were many denominations represented, yet there was a warm fellowship in which they were all as one. To an extent more general than that prevailing among other men in the Army, each shared a common name. Sometimes Chaplain. And to this name — borne alike by all — each responded. The deeds of one were in a large degree the deeds of all. Many a good work was begun or advanced in the life of a passing soldier by the Chaplain *HERE*, who knew that what he could not continue the Chaplain *THERE* would carry on. As men who pass the ball to teammates with confidence, that on the present faithfulness and skill of each depends the outcome of the completed play, so the chaplains found it good to merge themselves in the great personality known to the typical combat soldier as *THE CHAPLAIN*.

It is a glimpse of the life and accomplishments of *THE CHAPLAIN* in the Fifth Army — Emissary of God and Friend to Man — that we set ourselves here to present.



« TO PREPARE FOR BATTLE »

“Our duty - to prepare for battle,,

On 5 January 1943, just after midnight, Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark activated and assumed command of Fifth Army. The following day General Clark breathed the breath of life into his newly created Army with the following dedicatory message:

« Our duty is clear — to be prepared for battle at the earliest possible moment. All else must be subordinated to that end. Every man and every officer of Fifth Army, no matter what his job, must prepare at all times for that moment when we march into battle to destroy the enemy. This calls for peak mental and physical conditions. It calls for complete devotion to duty, for long tiring hours of work, for initiative, for resourcefulness, for staying power. Men make the army, and all of you, I know, will make this — The Fifth — a great Army. »

On January 19, 1943, fourteen days after this activation, Tec 4 William H. Grady, was assigned to the Chaplain's Section, as the activating personnel. On 29 January 1943, Chaplain Edward J. DeMars, of I Armored Corps, was assigned to Fifth Army, but was never designated Fifth Army Chaplain. Finally on 9 February 1943, Chaplain Patrick J. Ryan, Division Chaplain of the Third Infantry Division, was ordered to Fifth Army Headquarters on temporary duty. On 16 February Chaplain Ryan was assigned to Fifth Army Headquarters, and was announced as Fifth Army Chaplain on February 17. Chaplain Ryan immediately set upon the work of organizing and directing the chaplains under his jurisdiction. During the entire Italian campaign Chaplain Ryan remained as Army Chaplain and guided the chaplains of many organizations into one harmonious group.

By April 1943, fifty-six chaplains had been assigned to units with the Fifth Army. II Corps, comprising three divisions and miscellaneous units, made up the Army during this period. The tedious task of perfecting an organization was taking place. In May 1943 the number of chaplains assigned to units under Fifth Army jumped to 101, but in June the Seventh Army was activated and the re-assignment of units dropped the number of chaplains assigned to 64. Chaplain Charles E. Brown, Jr., was assigned as Assistant Fifth Army Chaplain on 2 May 1943. With the invasion of Italy by the Fifth Army, at Salerno, on 9 September 1943, our assigned chaplains totalled 119 — representing 4 divisions, II and VI Corps, and numerous attached troops. Chaplain Aaron Paperman was assigned to Army Headquarters in September 1943, thus filling the Table of Organization. When Fifth Army took Cassino, there were 186 chaplains assigned. In January 1944, sixty-three chaplains landed at Anzio, under VI Corps, while with the main body of Fifth

Army on the Rapido-Garigliano Front were 127 other chaplains. In the spring of 1944 the arrival of the 85th and 88th Divisions, along with other units, brought the total to 222 chaplains serving on the Italian Front.

In July the Seventh Army was reactivated and many of the chaplains with their units, came under its administration. By 1 September 1944, the chaplain strength of Fifth Army was 131. They were assigned to five divisions, and one combat team of a sixth division, II and IV Corps and attached Army and Corps troops. In the fall of 1944, while the men of the Fifth Army toiled through the hills and mud of the Gothic line, which was to defy them through the winter months, 131 chaplains toiled with them and shared their daily living. After a winter of retrenchment and little advance, Fifth Army made the final push to victory in Italy. The Fifth Army crossed the finish line of World War II with a total strength of 180 chaplains. Thus we gain a picture of the size and extent of the group of men who were the Chaplains of the Fifth Army. From start to finish almost five hundred different chaplains served with the Fifth, and thus played their fair part in this history.



« CHANNELS THROUGH WHICH THE BLESSINGS OF GOD MIGHT BE DIRECTED TO
THEIR VALIANT COMRADES »

The Chaplain on the Beachhead

It was 0330 on the morning of 9 September 1943. Only the day before Italy had withdrawn from the war, but she lacked the power to speak for the military power that gripped her. She could only thus protest its presence and call it enemy. The beachhead must be made — the Nazis driven out. Salerno lay just ahead of the convoy of four hundred and fifty ships, laden with a total of 169,000 fighting men, American and British, equipped, trained and geared for battle. In the hands of each man was a weapon — in his mind and hand a skill to use it — achieved through long months of training pay off in destruction of the enemy. Today Salerno means a battle won. Then it was a beachhead to be conquered.

Among them were men who had no weapons — whose skills and training were of a different sort. They were there because they loved the men they were with and, come what might, they would see them through! Theirs was the same cause, but their aid in advancing that cause came rather from a will to point the men of military might to a higher power, which would implement their material strength for the attainment of victory. The chaplains were there to be channels through which the blessing of God might be directed to their valiant comrades in what might prove to be, for many, their darkest hour.

So they too peered across the dark waters. They too were awed by the overpowering blackness of the night on sea and land alike. Only far off in the distance up the shore were the silence and the darkness broken by the bombardment of the British forces to the left, which had begun at midnight, and by the chandelier flares that lighted up the distant scene. A background far off of fascinating noise and light was this, with a foreground of silence and forbidding darkness. How strange this silence under the stars, broken ever so gently as the rippling swells caressed the sides of ships, scarcely moving. It was very still that morning at Salerno on the American sector — until just before 0330 hours. But then the attack began!

Men and weapons stormed ashore — each man with a part to play in the drama of battle, known to him through long practice in advance. Each man did his part as the enemy, taken off balance, sought to throw back blow for blow.

But what of the chaplains? Of these, each unit had its man — a spiritual father to his flock — and when the fighters swarmed forward, the chaplain was there too. When the battle at Salerno had reached its full flood, a hundred and nineteen among the fighting men were of those who bore no arms in their hands, but who carried a mighty faith

into the hearts of others. In citing instances of parts played heroically by chaplains in this or any subsequent action there is some hesitation, lest it be thought that those mentioned so greatly excelled all others. Bearing in mind that what is recorded thus is rather typical of the calibre and conduct of all, we look briefly at chaplains in action on the Salerno beachhead.

Out of the silence that seemed to confirm the hope that the surprise had been complete, there spoke from the beach at Paestum, by loud-speaker, a voice clear and threatening: « Come on in and give up. We have you covered. » As an answer to the enemy's defiance, followed as it was by a rain of murderous fire, the boats of our first wave grated on the shore at exactly 0330, according to plan. The defending forces on the shore took a fearful toll, but could not stop the brave men from carrying out their orders and reaching their assigned objectives. On the left the 142nd Regimental Combat Team, from the 36th Division, rushed ashore and proceeded to take up positions in accordance with instructions. With these infantry troops, as they advanced up the fire-swept beach, was Chaplain Herbert Phinney, from Boston. He was just one of these, who with his men faced the withering fire, seeking such shelter and protection as might be found, as they pressed the advance. It was a mighty struggle — creeping, crawling through barbed wire, and running from cover to cover. The men had to do it; so did the Chaplain.

On the right a similar experience was being shared by the 141st Regimental Combat Team. With these troops was Chaplain Christian A. Lehne, from Texas. Chaplain Lehne landed in the early hours of D-Day with the first battalion of the 141st Infantry. As the battle grew more bitter, he went forward to the front lines, to assist in the evacuation of the dead and to offer spiritual assistance to the fighters and their wounded comrades. For two days, with little sleep and rest, he worked diligently despite intense artillery, mortar and small arms fire. He made frequent trips from the front lines to the beaches. His care and ministrations eased the dying moments of his fighting comrades. His sterling example of calm demeanor, cool courage, and outstanding faith materially contributed to the maintenance of good order and the ultimate success of the mission. For this action Chaplain Lehne was awarded the Silver Star.

At another point along the beach, Chaplain Harry J. Quinn, from Wilmington, Delaware, came ashore with the first wave of the second battalion, 143rd Infantry. With adaptability and resourcefulness, he realized amid the slaughtering fire of those early hours that the present need among the falling men was an aid station. No great distance from the shore was a stone tower, which seemed by its location and nature suited to the present need. This the chaplain designated as a collecting point

for the wounded. With the help of soldiers in the vicinity, he proceeded to bring together all the men lying about, whom he and his helpers could reach. To what extent this early and timely action by the chaplain saved the lives of men dying on the field of battle cannot be known, but its appropriateness speaks for itself, and typifies the readiness of the chaplain to meet any situation with the means at hand.

At an early phase of the action at Salerno, the 630 AAA AW Battalion was put ashore, to provide anti-aircraft protection for the other troops as they pressed the fight. With the 630th was Chaplain Lawrence Hertzog, from Oklahoma. As the chaplain was coming ashore the scene was one to fill the heart with terror. One boat near his was struck by artillery. So far as could be observed every man in it was killed in the explosion, even before it could make the shore. So heavy was the fire at that point that the boat in which the chaplain was riding was forced to land farther down the beach, forcing its occupants to walk to the point designated for their positions. As he passed among the fallen men near the beach, Chaplain Hertzog realized the one immediate need was for means to be established for the burial of the dead. Upon inquiry he found that the Graves Registration Officer had been seriously wounded and was out of action. His men were in need of leadership to take up their necessary work. So the Chaplain proceeded to seek out a spot to be designated as a cemetery and to do his part in the only ministry still possible for these men who had paid with their lives. As the military situation developed at Salerno in those furious days, other troops landed, such as the 45th Infantry Division and the 82nd Airborne Division. With them were their chaplains. Chaplain Leroy Raley, from Oklahoma, and Chaplain Joseph Barry, from Indiana, came in with their men of the 157th Infantry, 45th Division. Chaplain Barry afterwards remembered, as outstanding among his experiences, the time when on the Salerno beachhead he was saying Mass when a bombing and strafing attack took place. Those were strange hard times, but the chaplains carried on. With the 135th Infantry came Chaplain Neil Cashman, who for his part in this and subsequent actions received high official commendation. Chaplain William H. Dickinson was there with his men of the 179th Infantry, 45th Division, as was Chaplain Goldman S. Drury, who shared the action with the Artillery Battalions of the 36th Division. Present also at Salerno, attached to units other than Divisions, were other chaplains. To name some, we find Chaplain Daniel P. Jenkins, from Georgia, with the 534th AAA AW Battalion, and Chaplain Edward C. Murphy, from Pennsylvania, whose unit was the 213 Coast Artillery. Then there was Chaplain Joseph O'Connell with the 536th AAA AW Battalion and Chaplain Silas L. Weems, who accompanied the men of the 106th AAA AW Battalion.

As the positions on the beachhead became more consolidated, the

hospitals were set up to care for the wounded and the dying. No sooner had the boats reached the shore under the fire of enemy guns than works of mercy began. In these the chaplains played a most significant part, assisting in and supplementing the work of the aid men. Typical of the actions of the chaplains in these fateful hours is the eye-witness description of the action of Chaplain Drury by an enlisted man. «He didn't have to go in so early, but he did go with Captain Johnson and me while the Germans were laying down a barrage on the beach. The last I saw of him he was working with the wounded and the dead.» Of Chaplain Dickinson, during the period of the actual invasion, it is recorded that: «He landed at Salerno with the first battalion, 179th Infantry, and usually worked with the forward battalion C. P. With the aid men in the line, he often established collecting points for the wounded, before the medics and litter bearers could get there.»

In the care of the wounded through the hospitals themselves, we find a similar record of unsparing zeal to relieve the miseries of the wounded and dying. Chaplain Luckett, who joined the 95th Evacuation Hospital on 2 September 1943, as they were leaving Africa, for the invasion of Italy, tells how his hospital was the first one to be set up in Italy, and how many lives were saved by the unselfish work of the personnel of the unit.

The ship, that was bringing all the equipment of the 8th Evacuation Hospital to the beachhead, came under the full weight of the shore attack that greeted the initial landings at Salerno. As a result it was sunk, carrying with it all the precious supplies for setting up the hospital. The personnel came ashore safely from another boat and occupied themselves with the variety of tasks that fell to their hands in those critical and busy days. Chaplain Henry J. Murphy and Chaplain William H. Laird helped wherever they could during the two weeks that elapsed before a re-supply of needed equipment could arrive from Africa. Then the hospital was set up, and proved of great value in caring for the wounded as the campaign advanced. Chaplain Laird tells of one experience he had with a man who was very near death. When the chaplain was called to his side, he was in an oxygen tent. Through the walls of the tent he spoke weakly to the chaplain, who drew near to listen to his word: «Chaplain, I want you to pray for me. I'm doing the best I can. I want you to do the best you can!» He pulled through, though he did lose both feet in the process. He was sent back to the States, after months of treatment and convalescence, and has settled down in his own home with the girl of his dreams.

So the record goes, and in the desperately needful missions of mercy, the chaplains played their essential part. Yes, the 8th, the 16th and the 38th were there, also the 93rd and the 95th, and with each hospital was

its complement of chaplains, always ready to minister in the name of the God whose message is one of mercy and of love.

As the beachhead took on the aspect of a definite area of conquered territory, and was developed by our forces, there came other needs that fell on the shoulders of the chaplains. Chaplain Herbert E. MacCombie, Division Chaplain of the 36th Division, landed at Salerno, with the Commanding General's party, in the uncertain hours of D-Day. In addition to his duties as Division Chaplain, he voluntarily assisted in the establishment of the first American cemetery in Italy. Of this work of Chaplain MacCombie, it is said: « He worked tirelessly conducting rites and assisting in the burial of the dead. His indefatigable efforts throughout this period inspired and directed the chaplains of the division to higher efficiency and materially contributed to the spiritual welfare and morale of the troops. »

Even efforts to conduct services were accompanied by difficulty. The enemy recognized no nice distinctions among the activities of men in his fury to destroy all. Chaplain Phinney, of the 142nd Infantry Regiment, tells of his experience on Sunday, 12 September 1943 in Altavilla. He says: « It was our first Sunday ashore, and I decided to say my first Mass in Italy, because the shelling had ceased at about 0730 hours. In the square of the town stood two jeeps, one of which became the altar. About fifteen soldiers answered the hurried announcement, but by the time I came to the « Dominus Vobiscum » before the offertory about fifty were present. When Mass was completed, I packed my kit and retired to my slit trench for breakfast. Just then the barrage started again. The jeep that had been my altar was riddled with shrapnel. Thanks to a break in the shelling, the men had had an opportunity for their first Mass and Holy Communion in Italy.»

Through these days and in the campaign that followed, let the hardships be what they might, the Chaplain was always there with his men. In connection with the award of the Bronze Star to Chaplain Leroy Raley, we find this tribute paid: « Chaplain Raley proved of the utmost value to his unit, in providing for the spiritual and religious needs of the forward elements of the Regiment. He constantly visited the most forward elements of the foot troops, under severe weather conditions and often was subjected to enemy artillery and small arms fire. His tireless energy and sincerity in his work have endeared him in the hearts of all with whom he associated. »

In a like vein is the tribute paid in simple sincerity by the soldier, who, during these times and later, had observed the ministry of Chaplain Israel Yost. « Chaplain Yost », he said, « gave the impression not of a hero, shining with bravery in the midst of threatening danger, nor of the coward cringing with fear as the enemy fire ranged about over his head.

Rather, he seemed a faithful minister among his flock, moving about with loving unconcern, as though there were no more danger than in a parish in peacetime. » High praise this, and it goes for THE CHAPLAIN, as the men of Fifth Army knew him through the whole Italian Campaign.

As soon as the situation at Salerno became sufficiently consolidated to warrant it, the Command Post of Fifth Army came ashore and set up at Paestum. It was to be followed by many others in many places, until the end of the campaign. The Army Chaplain's Office, headed by Chaplain Patrick J. Ryan, assisted by Chaplain Charles E. Brown, Jr., and the then new Jewish chaplain, Aaron Paperman, came ashore at this time.

One of the first things which Chaplain Paperman did, in his capacity as the only Jewish Chaplain then in Fifth Army, was to conduct the second of the services for the observance of the High Holy Days. Chaplain Paperman's arrival at the Chaplain Section, Fifth Army, to take up his new assignment, had come at such time that he was unable to participate in the first of these services. Full arrangements had been made for both services by Chaplain Ryan, and the first was conducted under the able direction of an enlisted man, Philip Kuropatwa. These two services in the field on the newly conquered beachhead make a fair claim to bring the first Jewish services held within the limits of the anti-Jewish empire, that Hitler had expanded to include the farthest limits of Europe.

The VI Corps, of which Chaplain Karl Schleede was at this time Corps Chaplain, landed tanks and artillery. The 151st Field Artillery Battalion came ashore just in time to stop a counterattack of tanks. Units of the 36th Division drove inland as soon as they landed, sweeping opposition ahead of them. The Rangers and the Commandos landed successfully at Maori and Vietri, gained control of the coast, and established a protective screen to cover Fifth Army's left flank. It was Chaplain Harry Quinn, regularly assigned to the 143rd Infantry, who joined with the Rangers in the second amphibious landing at Maori, within the first week after D-Day. This action helped to break the German line, and Chaplain Quinn followed through with the Rangers as they advanced to Naples.

More troops were coming in on the beaches and everything seemed to be under control. But the resistance proved to be much stronger than had been expected, and on the night of the 13th of September there was a very serious counterattack along the entire front by elements of three German divisions, supported by tanks. Our losses were considerable, but the Rangers and the Commandos held their objective and reinforcements began to reach them. During the night of 13-14 September our 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, with which Chaplain Delbert A. Kuehl was serving, dropped near Paestum and was placed in the line at once.

The 180th Infantry and the remainder of the 45th Division came in on the 14th and went into Army Reserve. On the night of 14-15 September, the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment came in and took over the right flank.

It was during the fury of this fighting that Chaplain William E. King, then Division Chaplain of the 45th Division, brought to these present experiences the long and vivid background of a veteran of action in two wars. During World War I he served as a Merchant Marine gunner and was twice torpedoed. On the second of these occasions, he was so severely wounded that for five months he lost the sight of both eyes. In Sicily he received wounds that gained for him the Purple Heart, when he was carrying water to men engaged in the assault on the hill above Finale. Besides this, he also received three verbal commendations as being, in the eyes of his Commanding Officer, « one of the two officers on my staff from whom I received the most information on what was really happening at the front. » In keeping with this same aggressive desire to know what was going on, Chaplain King, at Salerno, was moving forward towards the enemy lines, seeking to render what service he might to the troops there. When the intensity of the enemy fire compelled him to take refuge in the bed of a dry canal, he found himself in the midst of a disorganized group of soldiers, among whom were numerous wounded. In the spirit of the chaplain, who finds in every need an opportunity for service, Chaplain King organized the group. He arranged for the return of the men to their units, and for the proper removal and care of the wounded though the spot where they had all found refuge together was still under heavy enemy fire. For this action the Chaplain was awarded the Silver Star.

Then we took the offensive. The 504th Parachute Regiment retook the Albanella Ridge on the 16th. After fighting all that night they took Altavilla. On September 18 Battipaglia was occupied by the 131st Brigade, and on the 19th the 45th Division captured Eboli. The 3rd Division was landing about this time. Patrols of the Fifth and Eighth Armies met on the 16th at Mercato and on the 19th at Rocca D'Aspide and Casacivita. We received heavy bombings the first few days and nights. The beaches were bombed and strafed frequently, causing casualties among the engineers. By D plus 5 our Air Force had established effective cover over the occupied area and thereafter retained complete mastery of the air.

The Salerno Phase had reached a successful end. An assigned mission had been attained. VI Corps, with Chaplain Schleede as Corps Chaplain and Chaplain Jordan E. Brown as assistant, was firmly established in the now famous Tobacco Factory. The cemetery nearby gave a silent record of how dearly, yet how valiantly, the Salerno beachhead had been gained.



AMERICANS ATTEND SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING IN NAPLES — OCTOBER 1943

Naples, Volturno and beyond...

When the Fifth Army cracked the German resistance at the beach-head, it then moved on toward the much needed port of Naples. The Army at this time included the 3rd, 34th, 36th, and 45th Infantry Divisions and the 82nd Airborne Division, plus many Corps and Army units. The Germans gave way before the power of the Fifth Army, but at some points resisted strongly and at others delayed our forces with well placed fire, mines, and demolitions. Infantrymen faced blown bridges, covered by intense German fire and extremely rugged terrain. Over hazardous and mined mountain trails, on dark, rain-swept nights, the Chaplains continued northward with their men.

Finally on October 1, 1943 Naples fell into Allied hands. The men who entered that famous seaport found this once proud city to be battered and beaten. One of the first units to land at Naples was the Third Convalescent Hospital. The original plan called for a landing at Salerno, but later instructions were changed. So, on October 4, 1943 the staff and personnel disembarked amid as distorted and agonized mess of harbor installations as were to be found anywhere in a war-torn world. They began the march of many blocks to the park, where they were to bivouac for their first night in Italy. Chaplain Clarence A. Hazen of Vermont, who remained with the hospital during the entire Italian campaign, marched with them. Naples had been vacated by the enemy only a short time. The explosion of mines and time bombs punctuated the passing hours of each day. As the marching men of the 3rd Convalescent passed along the desolate streets of this world-famous city, a loud explosion shook and shattered a building just a short distance beyond the head of the column. Nothing more serious than a shower of dust and harmless fragments fell upon any of the marchers, but it was a taste of the reality of war.

Chaplain Hazen set about to provide recreational facilities for his men. While pinch-hitting in the department of entertainment, the chaplain was able to obtain some films and conduct moving pictures in his tent. It was during these early days that the Third Convalescent Hospital went through its most tragic and trying experience. In the latter part of October in and about Naples there was a week of almost continuous bombing by the infuriated enemy. On the 21st, the hospital area was hit. A direct hit almost wiped out the entire equipment of Company B. Although the attack was vicious and devastating, the casualties were mercifully limited to nine men killed, a mere sample of what might have happened but for one circumstance. In that circumstance the chaplain played his part. At that very hour he had scheduled a movie, for the

entertainment of all who were available. The men had gathered at the movie out of doors, leaving the ward tents nearly vacant. Except for this fact, the casualties might have been appalling.

In the 45th Division sector, Chaplain Werner Saar, from New York State, was having his problems. It was Sunday and the chaplain's first service had been interrupted by enemy shelling. In beginning his second service he reminded his men that if an attack should take place, they were advised to « take cover ». Shortly after this announcement six enemy planes came into view. Immediately the men followed the chaplain's practical advice. When the attack was over, the service continued. Incidents such as this led *Stars and Stripes'* Bill Mauldin to sketch a chaplain conducting a service near the front line, with the caption below reading: « Forever and ever. Amen. *Hit the dirt!* ».

By October 6, 1943 the Fifth Army forces were generally along the south bank of the Volturno River. Preparations were being made to attack the Germans' fortified north bank. In VI Corps sector the 3rd Infantry Division was on the left, the 34th Division in the center, and the 45th on the right. At 2000 hours on the night of 12 October, the attack began. These divisions fought their way across against terrific odds and at great cost. Another milestone in the Italian Campaign was passed.

Struck down in the action in the vicinity of the Volturno River was a chaplain, who had been in the service only a short time - Chaplain John Patrick Hughes, of the 776th T. D. Battalion. Having set his feet on the pathway of service among the soldiers of his country, it was for him to say only in what direction he should make his way, not for how long. Chaplain Hughes laid down this work, to which he had consecrated himself, only when He who called him to serve, bade him come home.

The crossing of the Volturno placed our troops in position to press the enemy northward. The Germans resorted to their usual delaying tactics and added to this were the obstacles of cold rain, icy winds and knee deep mud. These were dark days for the men who were experiencing them, and the chaplains were called upon to encourage these lads, who were giving so much.

With the famed 133rd Infantry Regiment at this time was Chaplain Albert J. Hoffman, whose name has become practically synonymous with fearlessness in the face of enemy fire. Even against seemingly impossible odds, Chaplain Hoffman brought back the wounded and the dying, to points where they could be ministered to. Chaplain Hoffman, from Iowa, had gone through the African Campaign and made a name for himself, for the manner in which he retrieved the wounded from the field of battle. When he came to Italy, he was already the wearer of the Silver Star and the most coveted of all - the Distinguished Service Cross. One day while pursuing his practice of « seeing them through », he stepped

on a mine, suffering injuries which resulted in the loss of a leg, and placed him on inactive duty. He established a legend of courageous conduct that set a high mark among the chaplains of all wars. Chaplain Hoffman's ministry among the men whom he loved did not end here, but continued during the long months of his confinement, as a patient in the Percy James Hospital at Battle Creek, Michigan. He could help them more - he was one of them. The story of the ministry of this young chaplain was well recorded in an article in one of our national magazines. His smiling countenance beamed forth with the invigorating spirit of *The Chaplain* at his best. On November 15 our troops held a line running along the west slopes of Mount Massico, through Megnano, and up past the steep peaks overlooking Venafro. Before them lay a jumble of mountains, valleys, and plains, varying from the coast plain on the left to the peaks which soared more than six thousand feet on the right.

II Corps, which included the 36th and 3rd Divisions, was brought into the line on November 17. VI Corps at this time had the 34th and 45th Divisions. II Corps, which had come into Italy from Sicily on October 13 with a long record of proud achievement behind it in Africa and Sicily, was placed in command of the center of the line. Chaplain Marius S. Chataignon, who was Corps Chaplain at the time, served in that capacity during the entire campaign. Chaplain John E. Sjaugen served as Assistant Corps Chaplain until May 15, 1944, when Chaplain Milford D. Barrick was assigned. On August 17, 1944 Chaplain William P. Maxwell was assigned to this Chaplains' Section and on 22 September, Chaplain Barrick was transferred to the 1108th Engineer Group.

The Fifth Army commander decided to attack up the Liri Valley and on December 1, 1943 the offensive started. First it was necessary to seize some heights which controlled the entrance to the valley. A regiment of the 36th Division captured Mount Maggiore. After an unsuccessful attempt by an Italian motorized brigade, Mount Lungo was finally won by another regiment of the 36th Division. The recently arrived 1st Special Service Force, consisting of Canadian and American troops, which captured Mount La Difensa was the 77th Field Artillery Regiment, served by Chaplain Richard W. Jungfer. The Chaplain recalls how, under the cover of darkness, he and his assistant went forward to minister to some wounded men and experienced a terrific barrage of enemy shells on the way. It was about this time that Chaplain George Higgins reported to the group, as an associate with Chaplain Jungfer. They remember so well their first meeting. The newcomer was walking across the area near the gun positions, to pay his respects to his new colleague. They had just shaken hands, when a barrage began. Together they cemented their newly formed association with a near-sacramental baptism, that made them immediate fellows in suffering, and in service. There is an

intensity in the life of men in action that forms bonds quick and strong, to a degree unknown in peacetime relationships.

Just at this time when the fighting was in the worst king of weather and terrain, the 1st Armored Division was brought in from North Africa. Although no suitable terrain existed in which to employ the Division, it was desirable that it be available for exploitation in the Liri Valley, when and Rapido valleys, now became known to all the world as sites of bitter and prolonged fighting. Fifth Army attacked the Liri Valley and Cassino, but the Germans were determined to hold. The Liri Valley became known as « Purple Heart Valley ».

During this Chaplain Edward R. Martin was Division Chaplain and continued in that capacity until July 15, 1944. When the Division arrived in Italy, Chaplain Edward T. Donahue, who later succeeded Chaplain Martin, was Assistant Division Chaplain. Other chaplains with the Division at this time were: Chaplain Alexander Davison and Chaplain John G. Wise, with the 1st Armored Regiment. Chaplains Willard Bicket and Arthur Lenaghan were with the 6th Infantry Regiment, while Chaplain John Strevig was with the 701st T. D. Battalion. Chaplain Francis McCarthy was assigned to the Maintenance Battalion and Chaplain Wilber Anderson was with the 16th Armored Engineer Battalion. With the 47th Armored Medical Battalion was Chaplain Irwin Bailey, while Chaplain John Jenkins was with the 68th Armored Field Artillery Battalion. The 81st Reconnaissance Battalion boasted as its chaplain, Manuel Zaldwar. Some units of the 1st Armored had come with the Fifth Army at Salerno. It was the 16th Engineers who bridged the Volturno River at a critical time during that battle.

By January 15, 1944 Fifth Army was secure along the line of the Rapido and Garigliano rivers. Cassino and the famous Benedictine monastery, situated on a high peak overlooking Cassino and the Garigliano

At this time Chaplain Charlie Webb and Chaplain Aloysius McGrann were on duty with the 16th Evacuation Hospital, which was serving the needs of men from the Cassino front. Many of the wounded were from the 100th Infantry Battalion, which was attached to the 34th Division. This battalion, recruited wholly from Hawaiian-American citizens of Japanese ancestry, had already made a name for itself by its aggressive and fearless spirit. On one occasion, when Chaplain Webb was making his rounds of the hospital, he was called to the bed-side of one of these Japanese-Americans. When the chaplain approached his bed, the soldier reached beneath it and drew out a New Testament, which had one end blown away. He then drew aside his pajamas to show the chaplain the slight wound in his side. « This testament saved my life », he said gratefully.

During this part of the winter campaign, three chaplains made the

supreme sacrifice. It was while serving with the 6th Armored Infantry, at the battle of Cassino, that Chaplain Arthur C. Lenaghan met his death. Word reached the regiment that many wounded men in a forward area could not be moved out, because of enemy artillery fire. Without concern for his own safety, Chaplain Lenaghan started into this area. He fell, mortally wounded, under the weight of fire from the enemy. He was holder of the Legion of Merit, for heroic conduct during the African campaign. The action which led to his death was consistent with the spirit he showed during his entire service with the Division.

Chaplain William O'Brien of the 1st Tank Group, who was sent to take Chaplain Lenaghan's place, continued the fine work of his fallen comrade. Chaplain O'Brien organized parties of Italian civilians into evacuation groups, to assist enlisted personnel in the removal of the dead from the battlefield. He personally led his crew into uncharted mine fields, which were under enemy observation and through intermittent small arms fire, to evacuate the American dead. For his perseverance, courage and devotion to duty, Chaplain O'Brien was awarded the Silver Star.

Then there was Mac. That is what everyone called him who knew him — and everybody knew him — Chaplain Herley R. McDaniel, from Texas. A chaplain for less than a year, he was assigned to the 36th Division Artillery. When the beachhead landing was made at Salerno, he volunteered to go with the men in the Infantry. By the time things were lined up for the Liri Valley attack, he was back with the Artillery, but always served whenever and wherever he found the opportunity. During the first part of December 1943 he had established himself — at least a part of the time — at a crossroads near Presenzano. It was an acknowledged hot-spot, and his remaining there was beyond the call of duty. Many a tired soldier remembered afterwards the always friendly smile and the wave as they greeted Mac. It made one feel better just to go by a guy like that. He was backing it up by giving out hot coffee and doughnuts, to all who stopped in. They went well, coffee and doughnuts, when the weather was so cold and wet. And the way he gave them to you — with a lot of his fine self to boot — made it worthwhile to stop. The Germans were shelling the crossroads again. Mac stepped out of the door and a shell got him. Things were not the same around there after that. They never are when a chap like Mac goes away so suddenly. The boys missed the books and food he used to bring around in his trailer, but most of all they missed Chaplain Mac.

Shortly after Chaplain McDaniel was killed, another valiant chaplain of the 36th Division gave his life. From the citation which accompanied the award of the Silver Star, posthumously, we read: « When word was received that several seriously wounded men had been brought to a for-

ward aid station, Chaplain Robert E. Alspaugh of the 141st Infantry, immediately went forward to provide spiritual attention for them. Undeterred by an intense concentration of enemy artillery, he courageously entered the area and reached the wounded men. He remained with them and administered to their religious needs, until the aid station itself came under the deadly barrage. Chaplain Alspaugh was killed by shell fragments from a nearby explosion, while calmly performing his spiritual duties. His unfaltering loyalty, determination and exemplary devotion to duty inspired all who witnessed his deeds ».

During this winter period it was difficult to find adequate places in which to conduct services. An energetic chaplain of the 16th Engineers, Chaplain Wilber Anderson, found a large cave about 300 feet long. This cave was not far from the enemy lines, but was against the side of a hill and was well protected by the natural mass of the mountain. Some of his men were using it as living quarters, but they shared it gladly with him for his services.

It was an unique church, with accommodations for at least 100 men. There were no pews, but why have pews when helmets are available as seats! The cavernous darkness was broken by a wierd light, as the flames from candles and oil pots made grotesque shadows on the chaplain and the worshippers. Men who worshipped there still talk of Chaplain Anderson and the vespers in the cave at Tora.

The troops of the Fifth Army had been fighting for a long time under the most trying conditions. They needed rest and reorganization. Meanwhile plans were being made for the Anzio operation, which meant that much strength would be needed for the new beachhead.



FIRST CHRISTMAS IN ITALY

The First Christmas in Italy

December 1943, another year of the war, had come and with it came Christmas. The task of the chaplains faced in planning to observe the festival was no slight one. The mood of men living under the pressure of war, in mud and cold that defied description, with victory seemingly nowhere in sight, was not conducive to the celebration of a feast of peace. For many of the chaplains it was a matter of going from little group to little group, with or without the chaplain's folding organ, and singing a carol or two. It meant reading the Christmas story, often with the briefest comments. The Christmas prayer was spoken — a prayer for peace — with a fervor accentuated by the conspicuous lack of peace the world around.

The 34th Division was back from the line on the Cassino front. They were quartered at Piedemonte, relaxing from the rigors of battles past, and preparing for the great battles of the future. Among the resting troops of the 34th there were held thirty-two distinct and separate services. Again and again the carols were sung with a new and special meaning, as hearts were made tender by these reminders of other Christmases back home, and the hope of Christmases after the war.

In Italy, as in America, a natural part of the celebration of Christmas is the Christmas eve Mass. Wartime is not especially suitable for such an observance, with the enemy nearby, and blackout enforced. However, Chaplain John B. Murray of the 1108th Engineer Combat Group, succeeded in making arrangements under rather typical wartime conditions. His Mass was celebrated at Mignano, in the ruined local church. The priest of the parish, with other men of the community, had been taken away by the Germans. There had been no Mass held there for the past two months. So the local populace, as well as the soldiers, were interested. The main street of the town had been completely blocked by rubble. The Engineers had the task of clearing a path over, rather than through, the rubble. This they marked by the use of the familiar white tape. Within the church about a hundred men had gathered. Light was at a minimum — only four candles. In striking contrast to the peaceful service was the deafening roar and the frightening tremors as the earth shook under the impact of artillery fire. A Christmas service of worship within artillery range — a study in contradictions indeed!

Not far away, Chaplain Gabriel Waraksa of the 54th Medical Battalion was holding a midnight service at the same time and under similar conditions. For this occasion the men met in a blacked-out tent. A choir of ten local Italian children sang, as a ten year old Italian boy played the organ. If the war belied the Christmas message of peace, yet the

meeting of Christian people from two nations — strangers meeting with homefolks, who the year before had been enemy peoples to one another — bore testimony to growth in good will among men. Some of the soldiers' candy that went as gifts to the hungry children, played its part in making the atmosphere more Christmas like.

With the 1st Armored Division the chaplains did their best to make it seem like Christmas. At Cameglione, Chaplain Martin celebrated Mass, while Chaplain Flaherty delivered a sermon in English and then spoke a few words in Italian. Chaplain Anderson had a Christmas eve party for the men of the 16th Engineers. To set an atmosphere a large Christmas tree was erected and a manger constructed. After a brief Christmas message, the men stayed to sing carols till early morning.

And so Christmas of 1943 passed — and the men began to say: « By next Christmas we will be home — we hope! »



A CHAPLAIN READS BURIAL SERVICE AT GRAVESIDE OF AMERICAN SOLDIER

The Chaplain at Anzio

In landing troops at Anzio, the Allies hoped to secure a beachhead which would threaten the routes of communication in the rear of the 10th German Army, by seizure of the high ground of Colli Laziali.

On January 22, 1944 the VI Corps, undertaking its second amphibious operation, landed at Anzio. Its initial American forces included the Ranger Battalions, the 509 Parachute Infantry Battalion, the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, and the 3rd Infantry Division. Later arrivals were the 45th Division and a combat command of the 1st Armored Division. As time went on, additional forces entered the beachhead, including the 1st Special Service Force, the remainder of the 1st Armored Division and the 34th Infantry Division.

Although the German force opposed to our initial landing was small, the enemy reacted quickly by rushing troops from all directions to meet the emergency. Starting on January 28 until February 19, the Germans threw everything they could at our beachhead. Planes strafed and bombed our lines and shore installations. Artillery and railway guns shelled our positions. But Fifth Army dug in and held.

While the chaplains with the front line troops shared the greatest danger, yet no one was safe on the beachhead. One never knew if the next moment would be the last. Friends were snatched away with a horrible suddenness, that frayed the nerves of even the strongest. Bombardment and barrage alike were so hellish that the night became as day.

The 56th, 93rd, and 95th Evacuation Hospitals were grouped on the beachhead in one single hospital area, making them in effect one large hospital. It was during the afternoon of 7 February that an enemy plane was seen starting a dive at about 1500 feet. Trailed closely by a British Spitfire, the Jerry stayed in the dive until he was right over the heart of the 95th Evacuation Hospital, a spot where there was an intense concentration of tents, jeeps, trucks, and personnel. The pursuing Spitfire got the attacker, who parachuted to safety and imprisonment, but not before he had jettisoned his full load of bombs into the 95th area.

Chaplain Winter B. Luckett, who witnessed the attack, reports the result as the bloodiest sight he had ever seen — and he was a man of wide experience in combat. The blast took a toll of forty men and women dead and one hundred wounded. Men were seen sitting upright at their desks and typewriters, killed outright at their work by the concussion. The administration and operating tents were riddled. X-ray and surgical equipment was damaged. So badly hurt was the hospital that it had to be closed, and on the 9th of February the 15th Evacuation Hospital moved in and took its place.

At 0740 hours, on 16 February a large group of enemy fighter planes bombed and strafed the 45th Division's front lines. A few minutes later the 179th Infantry was under attack by a powerful force of infantry supported by numerous tanks. They were forced back by successive attacks and by noon the enemy had driven a wedge 4000 yards into the center of the 45th Division front. To aid the hard pressed infantry, VI Corps brought to bear all the resources of its greatly superior artillery and air power. In addition to 432 guns, three companies of tanks from the 1st Armored Division, four batteries of 90 MM anti-aircraft guns were employed on ground targets, while two cruisers assisted with fire on the flanks of the beachhead. All the resources of the XII Air Support Command were put at the disposal of VI Corps.

The men of the ground forces, who found themselves on the sizzling frying pan of danger that was Anzio on this fateful day, pay tribute to the debt they owe to the Air Corps who came in the nick of time, to turn the tide of battle from almost certain disaster. Among those who looked gratefully into the skies on 16 February, as the birds of the air came to the rescue in decisive swarms, was Chaplain George Griffith, who lived through all the dark days of Anzio with the 56th Evacuation Hospital.

The 56th Evac was set up on the beachhead and served through the many weeks of horror, that made such a page on American military history. Chaplain George C. Griffith and Chaplain Andrew M. Pronobis labored among the men brought into the hospital in those days of bloody fighting, that left nine thousand men beneath the crosses there. Their experiences were typical of a host of Chaplains.

Through many weeks Chaplain Griffith was called upon to transport the bodies of those killed in action to the established cemeteries, where they were turned over then to the faithful and effective care of the Graves Registration Service. Always it was a trip full of special hazard and unexpected dangers. The area was under constant shell fire, and day after day, the exploding shells would fall around the chaplain and his driver, as they went about their macabre task. There were falling buildings to increase the threat, as they went through narrow village streets. One day a shell hit an ammunition dump nearby. The deliverance that they experienced from the almost certain death was a constant source of marvel and of deep gratitude to a God whose protecting arms never ceased their vigilant care. It was almost a daily formula of heart-felt conversation, when the chaplain would say to his driver, faithful Pete Riley: « Riley, the Lord went with us again. » And Riley's answer was always short and sure: « Sure did, sir. » They knew He had, for no man could go through such a holocaust without Him.

Nothing is so inspiring to the chaplain, and to others, as the marvels

of courage they have witnessed among men so terribly hurt that their plight is even sickening to those nearby. There was, for example, Private Pete Bentley. Pete was in a foxhole when a 170 shell hit so near that both legs were blown off. When help finally came, the shells were still falling all about him. Solicitous more for the men who would help him than for himself, he warned them to be careful of the danger to themselves. When the chaplain saw him, Pete looked up confidently as he said: « Me and the Lord are going to make it. » And they Did! Later, at the hospital, when convalescence was proceeding, Pete cracked with the never-failing spirit of the G. I., « I always had trouble with the size of my feet. Now I can pick my own size. » The unmarred man has a hard time understanding the wonderful courage of the men who can take it like that and carry on!

On Anzio there were plenty of experiences with terrifying bombardment. For example, there was the night the big bombs fell in the officers' quarters of the 56th Evac and blew down all the tents. Also the occasion when a two-thousand pound glider bomb landed one hundred yards from the chaplain's tent. Though no one was hurt, it made a crater fifteen feet deep and sixty-five feet across. With the instinct of the well practiced combat soldier, the chaplain hit the ground, pressing himself down so tightly and so urgently that even the buttons on his shirt seemed the size of doughnuts, pushing him up high, when he wanted to be so, so low!

The chaplain recalls the amusing experience of the soldier who was the victim of harassing fire. As this process was going on the negro boy jumped out of one hole into another, a bit like a kitten on a hot griddle, as round after round fell around the area in which he had been working. When the shooting stopped, he stood up and shook his fist in the direction of the enemy, shouting: « Mr. Hitler, you has accomplished yo' purpose. You has harassed me! »

There is the experience of Chaplain Cecil Sansom, who was there with the 38th Evacuation Hospital. On April 15, they came into the area vacated by the 56th Evacuation Hospital. Chaplain Sansom found it difficult to hold services due to the bombs and the artillery fire. There was constant danger and there were constant interruptions. The chapel was a tent, which was dug in. An excavation, not unlike that used for the foundation for a house in the States, was dug and the tent set over it, which increased the protection very substantially. The difficulties and the dangers had not increased so fast as had the inclination of men to worship — and to find a protective feeling in communion with Almighty God. A security that holes and sandbags and embankments could not supply, was discovered by many for the first time in turning to the Rock of Ages. At no time in this chaplain's experience was the attendance

so good, the interest so sustained in divine service, as during those gruesome, hectic days, when for every man and woman there each hour might be this last.

Life was hard at Anzio with the hardness that makes men glad for whatever they have that sustains life, keeping body and soul together. Chaplain Leroy Raley, of the 157th Infantry, shared a « home » with his friend the dentist, Captain Stewart C. Howe. « Home » in this instance was a dugout, cut into the side of a low hill facing away from the enemy. It had a roof of heavy timbers overlaid with sandbags and loose dirt. At either side were places for bunks, with head room of only four or five feet. The bunks they used were litters borrowed for the purpose from the medics. In the farther end of the dugout, a higher ceiling was cut so that standing was possible and a sort of living room established. A stove supplied heat as well as cooking facilities, which did its bit to cheer many a dark hour. At the door was the ever-present blackout curtain, a precaution never scoffed at where the slightest bit of light might make the occupants the target for enemy fire. In such a « home » lived the chaplain and the dentist from the middle of February to the middle of May. There were hundreds of similar dugouts, particularly the dry canal bank, in the vicinity of a place called Campo Marte, the field of the dead.

If « all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy », then by paraphrase, we may say that all war and no amusement on the beachhead would have driven everyone stark mad. There were shows and entertainments arranged by chaplains as well as special service officers, or by others with both the flare and the inspiration to do something to break the deadly strain under which they all were living. They didn't have to be much, but they gained a sort of heightened interest and a kind of deep fervor from the do or die air that everyone breathed. One chaplain's clerk, typifying the spirit of the brotherhood of these valiant and unsung Tec 5's, who were always there to supplement the efforts of the chaplain with whom they worked, got together a show and took it around to various places, where there seemed a special need. Using his own talents on the trumpet as a foundation, and his ability as a master of ceremonies, he prepared a program that would have been a credit to many a well organized booking agent. The corporal could imitate any of the well known trumpet players of the so-called « name bands » in the States. There is something about a trumpet with a Harry James flavor that makes G. I. Joe forget — or perhaps remember better days.

In the 1st Armored sector Chaplain Francis McCarthy, senior chaplain for the division on the beachhead, was having his problems. Jerry seemed to have his number. On January 26, while awaiting debarkation, his jeep stopped its first fragments of an enemy bomb. On February 29 during an early morning raid, the jeep received a direct hit. His equip-

ment was badly damaged. Five days later his tent was ripped to shreds by an anti-personnel bomb and another tent met the same fate several weeks later. The chaplain himself was wounded on April 19 and Chaplain Anderson became senior chaplain. Chaplain McCarthy regularly visited and held services for troops even in the most remote sectors. He held counsel with troubled individuals and devoted much time in close contact with exhausted troops — giving them encouragement and contributed inestimably to their morale.

EASTER AT ANZIO . . .

Easter came on April 9th — and what an Easter it was. Chaplain Anderson held a sunrise service for the 16th Engineers at their Church-in-the-Wildwood, which was constructed from shelled trees. The atmosphere was perfect that Easter morning at 0500 ... all was quiet. Easter hymns were sung, the Resurrection narrative read, and all came to the Lord's table for-Communion. However, later in the day, one of Chaplain Anderson's services was interrupted three times by enemy artillery fire.

It was a strange Easter too for the men of the 34th Division. Usually a service at dawn seems appropriate in marking an event, the full impact of which became known to men at the breaking of the day. But war changes even the basic and traditional things in the practice of men. At Anzio for the 34th the Easter service was held in the darkness. All about was the darkness which only accentuated in the minds and hearts of all the pressing need and the fervency of prayer that the dawn might come, when men could worship — and eat, sleep and live — under the reign of the Prince of Peace.

Among the troops on the beachhead at this period was the 894th T. D. Battalion. When Easter came, Chaplain Joseph P. Reichling was serving as Battalion Chaplain. He was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery displayed while conducting this Easter Mass. To Chaplain Reichling, as to other chaplains under like circumstances, there appeared no reason why the worship of God became any less pressing a duty, although the enemy offered strenuous and inescapable objection, in the form of artillery fire and bombing raids. The call of Christian duty directed this courageous man of God to make arrangements for a Mass to be held at ten o'clock on Easter morning, at a crossroads along « Sticky Lane. ». It was the logical spot for a meeting place, because it was so conveniently located for so many men. About two hundred men answered the call to service, and were gathered about the altar, as the priest began to say Mass. Not many minutes had passed when the first shell came over hand landed nearby. The men of the congregation followed the instinct developed through long practice and experience. They took to the foxholes. The

priest, left alone for the moment, also felt the impulse to flee. But he also felt a deeper and more commanding impulse to continue the worship of God. With the concussion rocking the ground, the priest calmly reached down at his side to where his steel helmet lay. He placed the helmet firmly on his head and went on with the Mass. Gradually the men sheepishly returned from the places where they had taken refuge, admiring the greater faith of their Padre. The Mass continued to its end and no casualties resulted from the enemy action. If the holding of a service under these conditions may seem to have been unnecessarily hazardous, let it be said that at Anzio if services were withheld for security reasons, there would have been no services. The Bronze Star, which Chaplain Reichling wears in recognition of bravery in line of duty on 9 April, is well merited. Men of the 894th and the neighboring units will ever delight to tell of their padre, who couldn't be shelled off the job! There is no record of casualties sustained by men attending church at any time at Anzio.

BAPTISMS ON THE BEACH . . .

Not to be overlooked in a record of the events in and through which the chaplains moved at Anzio were the many baptisms that took place there, where the rite was consummated as men were immersed in the blue waters of the Mediterranean. Men who had been deeply moved religiously, in relation to the experiences they had gone through there, wanted to take a stand for the God to whose loving care they owed their deliverance from the death that overtook so many.

THE SEDER FEAST. . .

Under the direction of Chaplain Maurice N. Kertzer, who was then on Temporary Duty with VI Corps Headquarters, a suitable Seder Feast was held on the beachhead at the VI Corps Headquarters. While the main body of the Jewish men of the Fifth Army sector were meeting in the great feast at Caserta, these comrades in arms were accepting their isolation on the beachhead, as they joined with them and with Jewish men the world around in marking the promise of God's deliverance, vouchsafed to their people so many centuries ago.

Additional chaplains were arriving on the beachhead. In the 1st Armored area Chaplain George W. Kautz, formerly with the 9th Infantry Division, joined the Division on 23 February. He was assigned to the 81st Reconnaissance Battalion. Chaplain James R. Uhler, joined the Division on 26 April and was assigned to the Maintenance Battalion. The Army Chaplain placed two chaplains on temporary duty with the 1st Armored. They were Chaplain William J. O'Brien, who came to the 6th

Armored Regiment, and Chaplain Joseph P. Reichling with the 47th Armored Medical Battalion.

There was only one chaplain killed in action on the beachhead. Chaplain Eunace A. Wallace, from Kansas, was killed on February 16, 1944. He came to the beachhead with the 18th Field Artillery Brigade. During the long, hard days when life there was literal and continued « hell », they especially needed somebody around like this chaplain. He used to preach faith in a direct manner and he lived it the same way. The men would tell afterwards how it all fitted together so naturally. He would say again and again, driving the lesson home: « You should just live day by day in faith in God. If and when your time comes, you don't have to worry about it, you are ready. »

It was natural that on this fateful day, he should have been with his men, cheering them by his reassuring presence. These were bad times for everybody, but times were never so bad when Wally was around. A shell came over just then and landed where they stood. It got several of the men, the dentist and others, and it got Wally. It was a dark day for the heavy-hearted men around him, but it was Wally's day, and nobody doubted that he was ready!

Anzio was a bad deal and a costly horror for the men who had to live through it, but they took it and won. Soon they hit the road to Rome — an important link in the completed chain of victory.



SOLDIERS OF THE 85th DIVISION KNEEL IN PRAYER

The Drive for Rome

Early in 1944 Fifth Army's main front operation had been designed to maneuver the enemy into a position that would permit our forces to cross the Rapido River and break into the Liri Valley. Bad weather and insufficient forces prevented this accomplishment. Then, too, at Anzio our men came face to face with an enemy who was determined to hold reinforced by divisions outside Italy. Everyone engaged in the Italian Campaign experienced a bitter winter. The Chaplain Corps had suffered too. Chaplain John L. Kenney recalls one of the saddest experiences of his life. Things were fairly quiet on the Cassino front at this time, but men were dying daily. Chaplain Kenney was introduced to Chaplain Arvil Teem, who had come to serve with the 636th T. D. Battalion. Within twelve hours after their first meeting, Chaplain Teem was struck by enemy fire and was fatally wounded. He had served faithfully with the 431st AAA AW Battalion for nearly two years, before he went to his new assignment, where his service was so tragically brief.

Serving during this period with a well known fighting outfit, the 100th Infantry Battalion, was a combat chaplain with a distinguished record — Chaplain Israel A. Yost. From the time of the invasion at Salerno until the withdrawal of troops from Italy for the invasion of southern France, Chaplain Yost had accomplished much. During this time he received the Legion of Merit and the Purple Heart with cluster. Later, when the 100th became part of the 442nd Infantry Regiment, Chaplain Yost was made Regimental Chaplain. Notes from the chaplain's monthly report tell a story which is familiar to many combat chaplains: « Troops in combat all but one Sunday; made group worship difficult, but men were visited and reminded of the day. » Again reporting on his own activity he wrote: « Organized litter squads when members of two regular litter squads were wounded or killed. Assisted Battalion Surgeon at forward aid station. Evacuated 14 men, killed in action, from the hills by mule train. My assistant was wounded in action 10 January 1944, while acting as litter bearer in a forward position. »

During March and April the Fifth Army prepared for an all out drive for Rome. Meanwhile the Germans worked night and day to complete the Gustav and Hitler defensive lines. Fifth Army was concentrated in the relatively narrow sector between the Liri River and the sea. The French forces held the Army's right and II Corps, composed of two newcomers the 85th and the 88th Divisions, held the left.

With the 85th Division were Chaplain Preston P. Murphy, as Division Chaplain, and Chaplain Arthur B. Pearce, Jr., as the Assistant Division Chaplain. The spirit, that characterized the team relationship of chap-

lains throughout the Fifth Army, was shared with the men of the 85th by the chaplains in front line experience. Especially notable was the warm appreciation and cooperation that emanated from the command in this division, as expressed in a variety of ways. Typical words of commendation expressed by the commanding officers concerning their chaplains are these written by the Commanding Officer of the 338th Infantry Regiment, in approval of the work of Chaplain J. Jasinski: « Chaplain Jasinski's devotion to duty, warm friendliness, and pleasing personality have won for him the friendship of every officer and enlisted man of my regiment. » This typifies a spirit in the command which enabled the chaplains to do the most effective work.

Teamed with Chaplain Jasinski when the 85th arrived overseas in the 338th Regiment, were Chaplains James G. Barron and Yoder P. Leith. In the fall of 1944, Chaplain Barron was withdrawn from the regiment for medical reasons and Chaplain William M. Kendall was sent to fill the vacancy. Chaplain Kendall served throughout the campaign with a highly creditable record of serve. For several months, Chaplain William Pixley served with the 338th, going later to the 473rd Infantry with whom he served to the end of the campaign.

In the 337th Infantry Regiment, two Protestant chaplains, Chaplain Paul J. Tarcy and Chaplain Wallace A. Wiggins, were associated with Chaplain Thomas Nolan, the Catholic priest. Later Chaplain Wiggins was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in action in July 1944.

The chaplains of the 339th Infantry Regiment were an unbroken team throughout the action from their entry into combat till V-E Day. Chaplains Michael J. Kippenbrock and Harold G. Barry served with Chaplain Anthony P. Wojtecki in the 339th. Decorations came to two of this trio of comrades in service when Chaplain Kippenbrock was awarded the Bronze Star, and also the Purple Heart for wounds received in action, while Chaplain Barry was awarded the Bronze Star.

The Jewish men of the 85th were served first by Chaplain Israel J. Kazis and later by Chaplain Robert L. Katz, a Rabbi from Illinois. With the 85th Division Artillery throughout the Italian Campaign were two associated old-timers, Chaplain Chester T. Loszewski from Pennsylvania, and Chaplain Henry W. C. Luedke, from Illinois.. Both of these faithful chaplains were honored with the award of the Bronze Star, for service rendered with the unit. The 310th Medical Battalion was served by Chaplain Warren M. Chandler, from Vermont, which completes the tally of faithful ministers of God, who served the 85th Division.

CHAPLAINS OF THE 88th DIVISION. . .

When the 88th Division moved into line on Italy's west coast early in March 1944, it became not only the first selective service division to

come overseas, but also the first to go into combat. Chaplain Frederick G. Lamb was Division Chaplain and Wallace M. Hale was Assistant Division Chaplain.

The sector was comparatively quiet with minor fire-fights between our patrols and the German patrols. It was the ideal location for new, untired troops to get the actual feel of combat. For two months the chaplains ministered to their men and gradually became combat soldiers. Many times their visits to individual foxholes were made under cover of darkness. The chaplains visited hospitals, held services for troops in the rear, spent much time at the Medical Collecting Points, but most of their time was spent living with the front line troops, enduring their hardships, encouraging the men as they adapted themselves spiritually, mentally, and physically to combat.

During these « quiet days » one of the most unusual Easter Services in the history of the Chaplaincy was conducted by the chaplains of the 349th Infantry. When it was known that the regiment would be on line on Easter Day 1944, the Regimental Commander and the Regimental Chaplain made plans for the men at the front. Originally the idea was to set up loud-speakers to make Catholic and Protestant services audible to all. However, since some of the companies were directly in front of enemy positions, it was impossible to get the services over to them without being heard by the Germans. What would be their reaction? From this angle, the plan was developed to begin the service in German with an explanation of their intentions. There upon the chaplains conceived the idea. Since the Christian Religion is for all races and nations, for enemies as well as friends, it was finally determined to hold a short German service for the enemy soldiers at the very start.

On Easter Eve, regimental wiremen and loud-speaker operators were busy laying miles of wire throughout the front, as near as possible to the enemy lines. A nurse, Lieutenant Charlotte Johnston, drove up early in the morning under the cover of darkness and joined the procession, consisted of the Regimental Commander and his executive, the three chaplains, the chaplain's assistants, and several mules carrying the organ and other equipment. At nine o' clock sharp, the service began. For a description, the following is taken from an American Church Periodical:

« The Easter message broadcast by Chaplain O. H. Reinboth received much attention in the American press. It was part of a service read in both German and English by our American Army Chaplains and broadcast by loud-speakers across the four hundred yards of devastated no-man's-land to the enemy lines. Chaplain Reinboth said after reading the Easter Gospel in German: « Should not all Christendom be jubilant this day? Should not all people rejoice — now that Christ died and rose again for

all men — for Germans and Americans alike — therefore, I wish you also today in name of my soldiers a Happy Easter. »

« James E. Roper, United Press Staff correspondent, who was a witness, wrote: « Through powerful telescopes there could be seen no sign of movement in the German lines. Their guns had not spoken since the ceremonies began. The doughboys had been told to lie low in their foxholes, where they could hear the loud-speakers, but now some came forward to gather around the small altar. There was a small organ too. The organ, with the loud-speakers and the altar, had been brought to the front by mule pack before dawn. First Lieutenant Charlotte Johnston, a nurse from Ohio, sang, « I Knew That My Redeemer Liveth, » composed by German-born Handel. The music rang out sweet and clear through the peaceful morning. »

« David Lawrence, in his syndicated column, called the service, « The big news of the week-end. » His comment is worth more than passing notice, and we take the privilege of reprinting it here. After quoting from the message of Chaplain Reinboth, he continued:

« There was something courageous and sincere about that simple statement of faith, in the midst of an atmosphere of bloodshed and conflict. For Chaplains again and again are hard put to it to explain to the men in the armed forces how war and Christianity can be reconciled. It is the fine determination of Chaplain Reinboth to maintain his faith and to express the spirit of brotherly love, even for the enemy which makes his expression a notable one. It will not be surprising to those who have followed theological or religious doctrine, but it will be surprising to many, who often wonder how there can be a spirit of love toward an enemy. They forget that Jesus taught the need for extending love to one's enemy. Literally expressed, of course, it is a paradox, but the meaning of the word « love » is broader than is ordinarily assumed.

« When an American chaplain reminds the soldiers of an enemy country that Easter services are for them as well as for Americans, he is only saying that in the abstract sense the American people have no hate for another people as such, and that in his opinion Christianity offers a connecting link between peoples of like belief. »

In this same regiment one Sunday evening, the chaplain was holding service for Regimental Headquarters Company at the front. The chosen place was a stable where oxen had been kept, which had been hurriedly cleaned for the occasion. Less than twenty men were able to attend this particular service, but among them were the Division Commander, Major General John E. Sloan, the Assistant Division Commander, Brigadier General Paul W. Kendall, and the Regimental Commander, Colonel Joseph B. Crawford. The Division was practically untried at that time, but no one could help but feel that it would be successful. The chaplain

said then, and it proved to be true later: « Where leaders of a Division humbly trust in God and meet in stables with men from the ranks to worship Almighty God, victory will come. »

THE PUSH IS ON. . .

When the « Big Push » started just before midnight on 11 May 1944, the chaplains were at the line of departure to bid the troops « God-speed » in the effort that was to determine the sort of soldiers they actually were and whether the team that had been developed over a period of two years of hard training was equal to the task. The right flank was breached immediately, and the left flank folded after two days of concentrated attacks. The swift advance over what the Germans thought was impassable terrain began, and the chaplains marched along with the infantry-men. At times they did much more than was expected of them. A pack train was sent over the mountains carrying medical supplies. It was caught in an enemy artillery barrage and the train commander and U. S. soldiers were killed or wounded. Chaplain Werts, 351st Infantry Chaplain, took charge and led the train of medical supplies to the place where it was sorely needed at the time. For the chaplains there were many hard moments, long marches, return trips with casualties to the Aid Station, holding prayer service with one, two or more men. Never once did they complain about the work they were doing or the physical conditions they had to endure. It was satisfactory that they were doing their job, be it an all day job in the Aid Station, giving encouragement and help to the frightened, or an all night job of retracing steps to bring an ambulance forward, where the chaplain would assist with the evacuation of the wounded. The same procedure was repeated day in and day out, but the men in the lines were the ones really doing the work. Their love for their chaplains grew in a manner that could only exist under such circumstances.

The 85th and 88th Divisions fought like veteran outfits and moved up the peninsula. In the first few days of the offensive, the Fifth Army had defeated two German Divisions. All wondered just when a junction would be made between Fifth Army forces moving toward Rome from the south and the troops in the Anzio sector. It came with amazing speed.

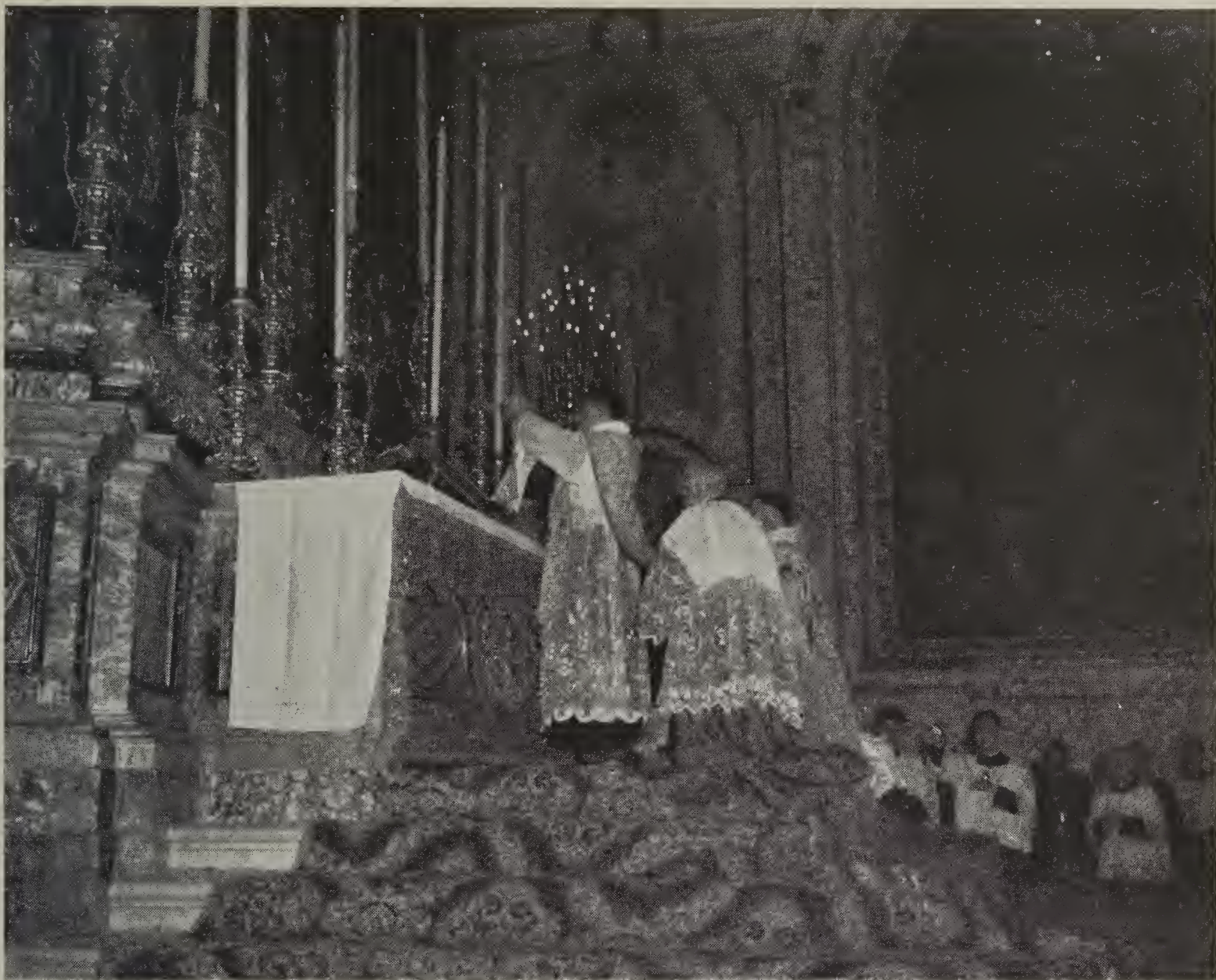
The enemy tried to delay our forces at Terracina, but on 23 May a regiment of the 85th Division attacked the town. On the same day VI Corps at Anzio jumped off toward Cisterna. By dark on May 25, Route 7 had been cut on both sides of Cisterna and the Germans fell back. Finally on 25 May a junction of the two forces had been made. General Clark immediately directed IV Corps to assume command of II Corps sector on the main front. The 88th and 85th Divisions were sent with II Corps to reinforce the beach-head forces.

The 3rd Division took Artena on 28 May and reached the outskirts

of Valmontone by June 1. The 36th Division, which had relieved the 1st Armored below Velletri on May 27, made a deep penetration in the rear of Velletri, occupying the heights of Colle Laziali on 31 May. Velletri fell on 2 June and on the following day the 36th Division, with the 361st Infantry Combat Team attached, neared Lago Albano. Second Corps was on the right of a great turning movement, which swung north and west. The German line was broken and Fifth Army troops entered Rome on June 4, 1944.

Just two days before Rome fell, Chaplain Joseph A. Gilmore died on the field. At the time, Chaplain Gilmore was serving with the 88th Division on temporary duty. Testimony to the popularity among the men gained so quickly by this beloved chaplain, is borne by the endorsement of his commanding officer on his monthly report of the previous month: « Chaplain Gilmore's work was of high quality during the time he was with this unit. He had deservedly gained popularity with all who knew him ».

His experience on the last night of his life presented all the hazards and trials that come to men under fierce attack from the air and ground alike. It was just before the final break through into Rome. The enemy, desperate with all the fury of men making a last effort to stave off the inevitable, strafed the roads about the area where the 88th was located. Father Gilmore was busily occupied all evening in the difficult and trying task of administering to the wounded. While he was moving about performing these duties, the Germans strafed the tent area, in which the chaplain's quarters were. When he returned to his tent a little later, he discovered that a machine gun bullet had pierced his pillow. Not unnaturally shaken by this terrifying consciousness, Chaplain Gilmore retired to seek much needed rest. He was called again about an hour after midnight, to resume his labors among the wounded in the admission tent. Later the infuriated enemy returned — strafing and bombing the hospital tents. It was then that the Admission Tent was hit. Nine men were killed instantly and among them the faithful Padre. He died while anointing an enlisted man. As in the latest moment of his life, so in his dead hand was found the cotton dipped in oil, ready to carry on his earthly work even until the God he served called him home. Some 200 men of his unit gathered at the chaplain's tent as Requiem Mass was said by Chaplain Gregory Kennedy. During the Mass, Chaplain Chataignon, Corps Chaplain, recited the Rosary. Chaplain Gilmore had answered the call to serve.



A SOLEMN MASS OF THANKSGIVING IN ROME, CHAPLAIN PATRICH J RYAN CELEBRANT

The Eternal City

Fifth Army had scored again! Rome, first and proudest of the major Nazi-held capital cities of the world, was liberated. She owed her liberation to the men of the Victorious Fifth! It was fitting that the liberators join, if ever so briefly, with the liberated in a time of celebration. Logically the spirit of celebration centered in and around the church of St. Peter.

Rome fell into Allied hands on Sunday, 4 June 1944. The process of its fall was such that no one will ever be sure who took it, or who was the first unit in the city. It is impossible to say definitely who was the first chaplain to enter Rome. There was much confusion — the Germans were withdrawing and the people who first discovered the arriving Americans broke into wild celebration — even as snipers and small fire fights livened the city. There were great waves of noisy celebration when our various troops came in. Through all the wildness of the event and its uncertainties, there is one thing sure, that Rome fell into Allied hands on Sunday, 4 June 1944. One big goal had been attained. The Fifth had made a touchdown and the stands all over the world were in an uproar.

By the early afternoon of Monday, 5 June 1944, the milling hysterical crowds, including soldiers and civilians alike, had massed themselves into the great Piazza before the main entrance of St. Peter's Cathedral. Probably no fewer than five hundred thousand people crowded the great Piazza. The climax was reached when Pope Pius came out on the balcony before St. Peter's and addressed the multitude and gave his benediction on this day of victory and of liberation. Truly it was an event full of mighty significance. None present could escape the overwhelming spirit that was all about. Rome was a happy city again. The oppressor had been driven out. These khaki-clad strangers were the liberators!

With the cheers of the day before still ringing in their ears, many of the men and chaplains, who were free to do so, made their way to St. Peter's the following morning. Each Catholic Chaplain present had the privilege of celebrating Mass in one of the Chapels. Then, on this Tuesday morning, 6 June 1944, at eleven o'clock, the Pope presented himself to the people gathered expectantly in the audience chamber, in the first public audience held since the beginning of the war. It was an occasion full of solemnity and special meaning for all those present. It marked the inauguration of a gracious practice that was continued from that time forward.

For men of Fifth Army the celebration was made complete when, on the following Sunday, 11 June 1944, a Solemn High Mass of Thanks-

giving was celebrated for men of Fifth Army in the Church of Santa Maria degl'Angeli on the Piazza Esedra. Chaplain Patrick J. Ryan, Army Chaplain, was the celebrant. The deacon was a French Chaplain and the sub-deacon was British. The sermon of Thanksgiving was preached in stirring tones and spirit by Chaplain Michael I. English, who was serving at the time with the 94th Evacuation Hospital. Within the inner-Sanctuary of the great church were Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, Commanding General of the Fifth, and his Chief, Major General Alfred M. Gruenther.

More than ten thousand people were massed in the world famed church as Chaplain Ryan sang Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving, assisted by the Sistine Choir of the Vatican. No one present will ever forget the stirring experience that was his. There were other victories to be gained before the war was won, but the fall of this renowned city augured well for the days that lay ahead. It was indeed a good beginning, and the Fifth, with the help of God, had done it.

If the completed conquest of Rome was full of meaning for the Christian world in general, and the Roman Catholic world in particular, it was not without significance for the men of Jewish faith as well. At this time the Fifth Army Chaplain Section was located at Anzio. Chaplain Paperman came into the city of Rome first on 6 June 1944 and sought out a Synagogue. When the Jewish refugees in the neighborhood saw the Tablet Insignia worn by Chaplain Paperman and his companion, Chaplain Kertzer, they kissed the insignia and made a great celebration in the streets as they passed along. The day following their arrival, the synagogue was opened for the first time in many years. The culmination of this spirit of celebration and rejoicing came later on 21 July 1944, when a service was held at the Synagogue marking its reopening and a time of giving thanks to God for the liberation of the city. Truly the fall of Rome was Fifth Army's big moment, out there was more work to do. It was not long before Rome was far behind, its wonders to be digested by degrees, as chaplains returned to visit it more leisurely on rest trips.

WELL DONE. . .

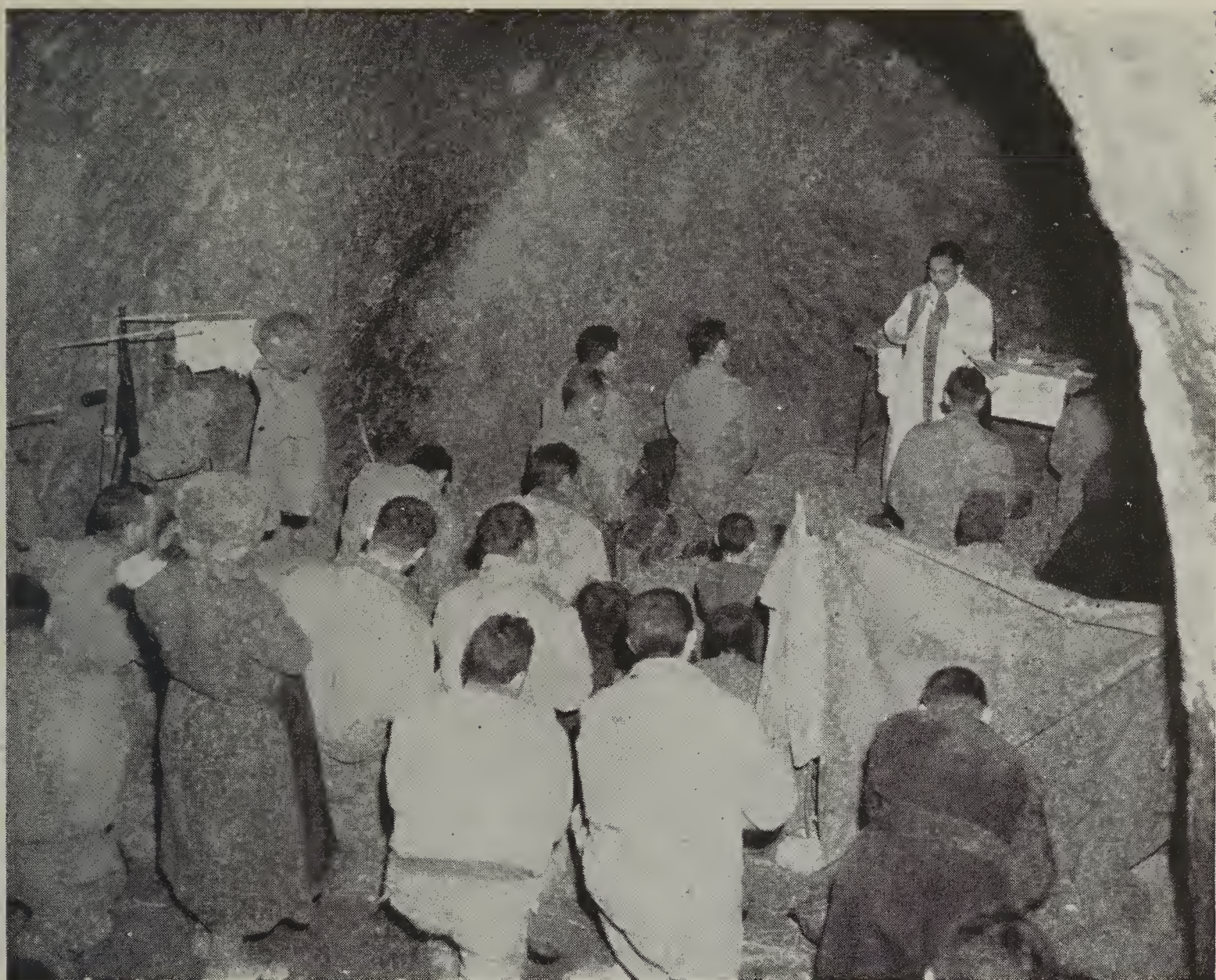
It is fitting that we give place to a roster of some of the chaplains who served in the Italian Campaign with the 3rd, 36th, and 45th Divisions. These Divisions were withdrawn to make the invasion of Southern France, where they added new glory to their record of achievement. Changes in personnel were made as the Campaign developed.

With the 3rd Division were the following: Chaplain Ralph J. Smith as Division Chaplain and Chaplain Lloyd Langford as Assistant Division Chaplain. With the 7th Infantry Regiment were Chaplains Delmar Dyreson, Chevis F. Horne, and Arthur Jankowski. Assigned to the 15th

Infantry were Chaplains Dennis G. Moore, Calvin Pinkard, and Notley R. Harrel. The 30th Infantry had Chaplains Charles B. Brown, Ward E. Gage, and W. J. Doerflein. In the Division Artillery were Chaplains G. T. Quinlivan and Vernon W. Rice. With the 3rd Medical Battalion was Chaplain Phineas Casady and the Special Troops were served by Chaplain C. D. Martineau.

The Division Chaplain of the 36th Division was Chaplain Herbert E. MacCombie, with Chaplain Bernard F. Roemer as Assistant. Also attached to the headquarters were Chaplains Christian A. Lehne and William G. Summar. The Artillery chaplains were Chaplains Goldman S. Drury and Harley R. McDaniel, who gave his life while serving in that capacity. With the 111th Medical Battalion were Chaplains Finton A. Murphy and James H. Dulin. The Engineers were served by Chaplain Robert E. Alspaugh, who also fell in action. The Infantry Chaplains were: Chaplain Bernard J. Fenton, Chaplain Charles A. Francis, and Chaplain John W. Lathrop with the 141st Regiment; Chaplains Harris T. Hall, Forest T. Franklin, and Herbert A. Phinney with the 142nd Infantry; and with the 143rd were Chaplains Lambert J. Mehl, Harry J. Quinn and Charles W. Arbuthnot.

The following chaplains were proud wearers of the Thunderbird, the insignia of the 45th Division. Chaplain William E. King was the Division Chaplain and Chaplain R. A. Matheny was Assistant. Later Chaplain H. E. Rector became Assistant Division Chaplain. In the Special Troops was Chaplain Werner Saar. The Medics were served by Chaplain H. Wicker and the Artillery was covered by Chaplains A. J. Pollock and H. E. Rector. With the Infantry Regiments the following served: With the 157th Infantry, Chaplains Leroy Raley, J. D. Barry and J. Paul Clark; 179th Infantry, Chaplains Raymond Copeland and W. H. Dickinson. The 180th Infantry was served by Chaplains O. T. Henley, H. J. Murphy and Harry F. Bell.



PROTECTED FROM ENEMY SHELLS

Rome to the Arno

After Rome fell the VI Corps went to make the invasion of Southern France. For the chaplains remaining in Italy there were many hard days ahead. We glance at the IV Corps Chaplain Section, which guided many Fifth Army Chaplains for the remainder of the Italian Campaign. When the Corps Chaplains for the remainder of the Italian Campaign. When the Corps Chaplain, Clarence S. Donnelly, was made 7th Army Chaplain, Paul Maddox was named his successor. Chaplain Malachy J. Hegarty continued as Assistant Corps Chaplain. During the rest of the campaign the chaplains' section was located in many different places, but none more unusual than the time they were stationed near Lake Avernus, where tradition had located the entrance to the infernal regions of Hell!

Practically all the units served under IV Corps at sometime during the year. In addition IV Corps had the distinction of having within its troops of many nationalities. There were Americans, British, Brazilians, South Africans, Italians and others. Outstanding among services rendered by chaplains in the field of international cooperation was Chaplain Maddox's service as liaison and interpreter with the Brazilian Expeditionary Force, which came to the IV Corps front during the summer of 1944. It was at the instigation of Chaplain Ryan, Fifth Army Chaplain, that a Chaplain Corps was organized throughout the Brazilian Army. An organization patterned on that of our own Chaplain Corps was formed. For his assistance in the organization and activation of the first Chaplain Corps of the Brazilian Army, Chaplain Ryan was awarded the Brazilian War Medal. For his active part in this work, Chaplain Maddox was awarded the Medal of Military Merit.

During the winter and spring of 1944-45, the international character of IV Corps troops was at its high point. There were twenty-one Brazilian chaplains working with their own units. Twenty-seven chaplains with the South African units of the British Army, were attached to Corps. Through service together on a common front, men of God of differing nationalities had an inspiring experience of fellowship and service. The Corps Chaplains kept a careful watch over the military cemeteries, seeing that for every man killed in action an appropriate service of his faith was held.

Now let us follow the fighting Fifth during the next fifty days following the fall of Rome, when it drove 150 miles north against sporadic but determined enemy resistance. Along with the veteran divisions, the 361st Infantry Combat Team, which had participated in the late days of the drive on Rome, now took up its northward attack. With this outfit were the following chaplains: Dean T. Stevenson, John A. McLoraine,

and John W. Moehring. Casualties were heavy with this new Regimental Team when it was attached to the 1st Armored Division at the end of June, just north of Grosseto. The tanks on which the men were riding encountered strong resistance in this mountainous country. This action was typical of the fighting throughout the mountains, but nothing could hold up the advance. Finally on July 18, the 361st Infantry, which had now been joined by the remainder of the « Powder River » Division, drove forward to be the first unit of Fifth Army to reach the south bank of the Arno River.

91st DIVISION CHAPLAINS. . .

At 0300 on 12 July 1944, the 91st Division had entered combat for the first time as a complete unit. In addition to the chaplains with the 361st Infantry, the Division had the following chaplains: With the 362nd Infantry there were Chaplains Kenneth Murphy, Robert F. Rolf, and William D. Borders. These chaplains served their unit faithfully throughout the entire campaign and each was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service. The 363rd Infantry, who had seen action some nine days before while under 34th Division control, was served by Chaplains Joseph A. Lenk, Tim W. Holbrook, and Malcolm S. Sweet. The chaplains of 363 were with the first forces to enter Leghorn and Pisa. Division Artillery had Chaplain Howard F. Bomhoff and Chaplain Peter Duignan during the entire period of combat, except for a brief period when Chaplain Duignan served Division Special Troops. With the 316th Medical Battalion was Chaplain Jack Bates and Chaplain Wilford N. Vanderpool served Division Special Troops. Assistant Division Chaplain was John J. Watson and Division Chaplain was Chaplain Vernon P. Jaeger, who was cited for the superior manner in which he supervised the 91st chaplains during the Italian campaign. Later changes found Chaplain Vanderpool with the 361st Infantry, in place of Chaplain John Moehring. Chaplain S. J. Fitzpatrick, who had seen long overseas service with other units, came to Division Special Troops. Other additions to the Chaplain's Section were Chaplain Clifford Shuman and Chaplain Richard L. Walton.

During the last week of July Fifth Army regrouped its forces along the Arno, as the first preparation for the Gothic Line campaign. The month of August was spent by many of the organizations in specialized training and rest periods. The chaplains were grateful for this opportunity to become acquainted with the replacements, who had recently been assigned, and with the men who had been so busy fighting.

Chaplain Hale, of the 88th Division, who had recently become Division Chaplain, and his assistant, Day B. Werts, made plans for a Division service of Thanksgiving. This was held on August 6, 1944 near Volterra. The first part of the service was patriotic and men of all three faiths

sat together as the Commanding General brought a message of thanks to Almighty God for His blessings during the past days. Following this part, Chaplain Leo Crowley conducted Mass for the Catholic men, Chaplain Werts held a Protestant service, and men of the Jewish faith met with Chaplain Harold Goldfarb to worship. Eleven thousand men offered thanks to God that day.



« A LIFETIME OF PRAYERS »

A Lifetime of... Prayers

By September 10, 1944 the full strength of the Fifth Army was drawn up before the center of the German Gothic Line. Here the 34th, 85th, 88th, and 91st Divisions met the strongest prepared line of the entire campaign. Nevertheless it advanced through strong fortifications and over the mountainous terrain, made more hazardous by rain and fog. One infantryman described the period from 12-20 September as a « lifetime of mud, rain, sweat, strain, fear, courage and prayers ». It was all of that!

Through these long, very difficult days the chaplains once again proved themselves. They lived with the men and marched with them. They comforted and eased the wounded and ministered to the dying.

Many chaplains were cited for bravery during this period. When a company of the 349th Infantry Regiment had sustained heavy casualties and one of the injured soldiers was lying in a spot covered by enemy machine gun fire, Chaplain Leo Crowley went forward to his aid. A machine gun on the high ground beyond the buildings opened fire on him, as he dodged from house to house, making his way by short rushes toward the stricken soldiers. Committing himself completely to the task of reaching the wounded man, he made his way over fifty yards of barren ground, completely exposed to German gunners. He became the target for the continuous stream of hostile fire and mortar shells which blasted about him, as he made his way through showering earth and rubble. Reaching the side of the wounded soldier, Chaplain Crowley half carried, half dragged him back over the same route. He was repeatedly pinned to the ground as mortar shells struck close beside him, until finally he reached the partial cover of the buildings where lifesaving first aid was administered.

On 16 September 1944, Chaplain John W. Moehring, of the 361st Infantry was serving with the first battalion aid station. During an artillery barrage a shell landed in the doorway of the aid station, killing two men and wounding many others and set the building on fire. Other shells set fire to nearby hay stacks and hit an ammunition dump in the vicinity, which resulted in many further casualties. Chaplain Moehring, on his own initiative, helped in the removal of the wounded from the burning building. Moving about through the exploding mortar shells and small arms fire, he made numerous trips into the building to carry out litter cases. While making a final check of the building, he found an elderly Italian woman, dazed and helpless, lying in one room. With the help of others, he carried her to a place of safety. The chaplain's presence was a source of great comfort to all those who were present.

Over with the 1st Armored Division, Chaplain Anderson was earning an oak leaf cluster to his Bronze Star, for heroic action while visiting a company of the 11th Armored Infantry. Chaplain James Flaherty received the Silver Star, when the company he was visiting was subjected to a concentration of heavy artillery. The chaplain though himself wounded, gave medical aid to the wounded and comfort to those at the point of death.

After Futa Pass and similar high points had been captured, it looked as if it would be easy to pass into the Po Valley. However, the terrain ahead was most difficult. Instead of a range of mountains, the Fifth now fought on high rolling ground on which there was little cover and concealment. The enemy could be routed from his positions only by clinging to a rock with one hand and prying him loose with the other. Then, too, late in September the famous Italian rain, cold and fog set in. The almost constant rain drenched the individual soldier and turned the roads into quagmires. The enemy attempted to make at each of these mountains a strong, delaying action, which he worked feverishly to strengthen his next defensive line - the so-called Caesar Line. Finally after months of hard fighting the Fifth was forced to call a halt. For five long months the Fifth wintered in the high Appenines.

CHAPLAINS WITH THE 34th . . .

This was not the first winter in Italy for many of the chaplains of the 34th Division. Early in the campaign, these veterans of North Africa had landed in Italy. Some of the chaplains served from the beginning till the day of victory. Elsewhere in this history we have recorded deeds of bravery on the part of the 34th Chaplains. Here we take the opportunity to introduce the chaplains who were comrades to the men of the 34th Division.

Throughout the entire campaign in Italy, the top post was held by Chaplain DeLoss I. Marken, from Iowa. Having served as a Seaman, First Class, in the U. S. Navy for six months during the last war, he began his active duty in World War II with something of a combat background. He became Division Chaplain of the 34th Division on 6 March 1941. Service in North Africa and in Italy gained for him the Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit. There were several who served as Assistant Division Chaplain for the 34th. For a brief time Chaplain Neil S. Cashman filled the post. Then there was Chaplain Ernest E. Eells, who was surplus with the Division for a period. Also serving with the Division Headquarters was Chaplain Rupert Stadtmiller, whose earlier service had been with the 135th Infantry.

Then there was Chaplain Warren R. Hall, Jr., from Texas. He was assigned on temporary duty with the 168th Infantry through the Rapido

and Cassino campaign. From 1 March 1944 he was with the Special Troops, and served on T. D. as acting Division Chaplain of the 34th from October 1944 till March 1945. At the end of the campaign in Italy, he finished the war as a veteran of thirty-nine months overseas and was the holder of the Bronze Star in recognition of the distinguished nature of his service.

At Salerno the three Infantry Regiments were served as related below. With the 133rd were Chaplain Israel Yost, Chaplain Albert J. Hoffman, and Chaplain Ansley went to the 168th. Chaplain Fred R. Edgar came to the 133rd Infantry Regiment on 20 November 1943 and set a record for consistent service by continuing with his unit to the end of the Italian campaign. He brought his work with the 133rd to an end with fine service recognized by a Bronze Star.

With the 135th Infantry was Chaplain Joseph T. Walker. He was succeeded by Chaplain Allen C. McSween, who continued with the 135th till the end of the campaign. His service was recognized by the award of the Legion of Merit. Also with the 135th were Chaplains Leland Larsen, Rupert Stadtmiller and Francis J. Tobin. Later arrived Chaplain Guy C. Jones, who was with the 135th at the end of the war.

The third of the Infantry Regiments of the 34th Division was the 168th Infantry. There two stand-bys, Chaplains Kenneth L. Ames and Arthur J. Bojcun were with the 168th steadily for most of the Italian Campaign. Both chaplains were awarded the Silver Star. When Chaplain Ames was transferred out of the 168th, the vacancy was filled by Chaplain James L. Carraway.

With Division Artillery there were two chaplains at Salerno: Chaplain Irvin Askine and Chaplain Edward Maciejewski. Chaplain Askine came to the Division Artillery on 3 August 1943. He was succeeded by Chaplain Elwood Temple. Chaplain Edward J. Maciejewski was with the artillery until March 16, 1945, when Chaplain Thomas B. Bracken took over.

The Medical Battalion was served from Salerno till January 1945 by Chaplain Karl G. Kumm. Late comers to the Division were Chaplain Francis J. Fish and Chaplain Victor W. Dahlke. So we complete the roll of those who served through the long months of the Italian Campaign under the sign of the Red Bull. They, with the 1st Armored Division, enjoy the distinction of being in at the beginning and at the end of the long battle for Italy - and through all the hard months that lay between.



CHRISTMAS 1944

Winter in the Apennines

During the cold winter days, when the Fifth was temporarily halted, the chaplains were busier than ever, conducting service, visiting the men in the forward positions, and paying regular visits to their men in the hospitals.

In the front line positions the men worshipped in dugouts, caves, basements of partially demolished buildings, stables and on the reverse slopes of the hills. In the rear areas some chaplains had access to churches or chapels. At Anconella, the chaplains found a cave extending some seventy feet into the mountainside. It had smoothly excavated sides and even a slightly raised platform with a lower vault-like ceiling chiseled at the far end. The surface was soft enough so that holders for candles could be worked into each side. A suspended lantern gave light for the organist and the chaplain. In this unique chapel services were held for men of all faiths.

At one position on the front, services were held only 100 yards from the enemy and not more than 50 yards from rolls of barbedwire stretched around the ridge to deter enemy raiding parties. Men gathered for these services in a dismal, dark wine cellar to pray for courage to carry on.

In the city of Florence, where the Fifth Army Chaplains' Section was located, facilities were much better. Churches, theaters and large halls were used to conduct services. When Chaplain Francis E. Broyles, serving with the 87th Ordnance Bn came to the city, it was reported to him that services were being held in a Baptist Church. The chaplain discovered that this property was a part of the mission program of the Southern Baptist Convention. After emergency repairs were made to the building, it was used by both the Italian people of the parish and also by our own men. Chaplains Fundeberg, Phelps, Hertzog and Ross conducted services here. A highlight of the religious program in this church was the international and inter-denominational Communion Service on Wednesday before Easter.

When Chaplain Clarence Molen of the 105th AAA Battalion and Chaplain Silas Weems of the 42nd Ordnance Bn arrived in Florence, they found the beautiful American Episcopal Church hardly touched by the war. Here they conducted many fine services.

During the month of December, Chaplain Ryan provided for the chaplains of the Army a series of three conferences led by the First Armored Division psychiatrist, Major J. F. Zigarelli. These conferences dealt with the basic modern psychological concepts pertaining to the combat soldier's experiences, as well as personal adjustments to problems

arising from prolonged periods of combat. All Chaplains who were able to attend the lectures derived a great deal of benefit from them.

CHRISTMAS - 1944.

When Christmas 1944 came, things were much different than they had been the previous year. The men of the Fifth Army faced the enemy on a line that had become stabilized in the rugged mountains about three hundred miles north of the scenes of the great Cassino battle front of the year before. For all the rigors of a war that still continued, there was comfort for many and more hopefulness of a peace that could not be too long delayed. Many of the troops were quartered in villages and in homes among Italian people. Men far from home and from their families found in the children of this war-scarred land a warmth that reminded them of their own loved ones. Many an Italian child was made to glow with happiness because of Christmas kindness and Christmas gifts presented by the American soldiers. There were more parties held than could be recorded. In Florence a great Christmas party for children was held under the direction of the Fifth Army Chaplains, and over in Pistoia, Chaplain McGrann made the hearts of some 60 orphans happy with a party at the 16th Evacuation Hospital. Midnight services were held in most of the Catholic Churches.

Up front the chaplains were faced with the problem of making Christmas as realistic and enjoyable as possible for the men under combat conditions. Snow, ice and mud hindered the work, but the chaplains distributed decorations in the dugouts; arranged carol sings and had services for the men wherever it was possible.

Chaplain Hale, of the 88th Division, arranged what might be called a « portable » Christmas program. Equipped with a Christmas Tree, and all the decorations he could find, a manger scene, decorations for the room or tent, he and his choir set out to provide the men with « Christmas ». They held six separate programs and travelled over forty miles to do so.

« CHAPLAIN, I HAVE A PROBLEM . . . ».

One of the catch-words of World War II is the saying, « Take your troubles to the chaplain ». During these long winter month the chaplains of Fifth Army were called upon to help their men through all sorts and kinds of problems. The success of the chaplain often depended on how sympathetic and understanding he would be with men who really needed help. Every combat chaplain has heard the expression, « Chaplain, I'm scared to death; I just can't go back up there ». Thousands of men have been encouraged to « stick it out » by chaplains who were able to advise, because they knew how fear could grip a man.

Thousands of letters and cablegrams were put into the hands of chaplains, requesting that a soldier be told of the death of a mother, a wife, or little boy, one whom he had never seen perhaps. All the broken hearts were not on the home front. Many a frontline soldier, who never flinched under enemy fire, found the hardest fight when he tried to bear up under bad news from home. The chaplain was there to ease his burden. Even more tragic cases for the chaplains to handle were those of wives and sweethearts at home who were unfaithful. For a man lonesome enough in the midst of battle, to receive such news is almost too much to bear.

Of course there were those who did desert the service and then return. These men needed the help of the chaplain. With the 91st Division, for example, was Chaplain John J. Watson, who did splendid work among the men in the division stockade. In addition to the services conducted for them, Chaplain Watson counceled them and tried to return them to their units as better men. By close liaison with the Judge Advocate's Office, the Personnel Officers and the Division Psychiatrist, Chaplain Watson was of material assistance to his men.

When opportunities for rotation and temporary duty came along, many men received hope after the long, hard months away from home. All could not go at one time, so the chaplains were called upon — not to explain why, but to help ease the disappointment. It was good to bid goodbye to a lad who had been with you all along — knowing that in a few days he would be where you would give so much to be!

There were many other problems too, such as foreign marriages and the like, but no matter what it was the chaplain listened, and, if possible, helped.

THE CHAPLAIN'S BROADCAST.

During this winter the chaplains continued a practice begun long before. Early in the life of the Fifth Army, Chaplain Brown, Assistant Army Chaplain, began a radio program called « Fifth Army Vespers ». It was a half hour radio program each Sunday, which chaplains of all faiths were called upon to conduct. Later the program was changed to the « Mediterranean Church of the Air ». Wherever the mobile radio station went, the chaplains reported according to a rotating assignment. Chaplain Dennis G. Moore was in charge and was assisted by Chaplain William P. Maxwell.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

In March the Reverend Dan Poling, pastor of the Temple Baptist Church in Philadelphia and editor of the « Christian Herald » was guest of the Fifth Army chaplains and visited with many of them.

A short time later, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Bishop of the Methodist Church in New York and President of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, made a brief visit to the Army area. At an earlier date in Fifth Army history, two other distinguished religious leaders visited Fifth Army Chaplains. In January 1944 Dr. Barnet R. Brickner, the Administrative Chairman of the CANRA of the Jewish Welfare Board, spent the day with Jewish chaplains. In the latter part of July 1944, Archbishop Francis J. Spellman of New York, spent several days in the Army area. During his stay he conducted a Field Mass for the Catholic men of the 85th and 88th Divisions.

MONTECATINI.

Montecatini Terme was converted into a rest center for Fifth Army troops during the winter. The combat men were given brief rest periods at this well known Italian resort. Many who visited here will recall the 91st Division Quartet led by Chaplain Howard F. Bomhoff. This group of singers won the Barber Shop Quartet contest of the Fifth Army and entertained thousands of troops throughout Italy. Often an order for a whole regiment to report to Montecatini came through. This was such a welcomed relief from the cold and mud of the front lines and serves as a fond memory for many Fifth Army soldiers.

LETTERS OF CONDOLENCE.

About this time the War Department announced that in all cases of death a letter of condolence would be written to the nearest of kin by the Commanding Officer or by an officer designated by him. In most cases this worthwhile task was assigned to the chaplains. In some cases, it was handled by the Division Chaplain's office, while in others the unit chaplain did the job. It added greatly to their responsibilities during combat, but the chaplains tackled this new task with vigor. Answers which came to the chaplains from the States, showed what a great blessing these letters were to those at home.

THE « EVAC » HOSPITALS.

The Evacuation Hospitals were having a bad winter too. The 94th was served at that time by Chaplain Gregory Kennedy. It was located just off Highway 65, near Monghidoro. After considerable shelling in that area, part of the hospital moved to Florence and joined the facilities of the 15th Evac.

Chaplains William Laird and James A. Fleming were having a hard time at the 8th Evacuation Hospital. They served through a winter which set records for bad weather.

The 16th Evac had a trying time when they were located on Route 65. During a short period the patients ran up to 2300. All this time they operated in mud from four to six inches deep. Chaplains Webb and McGrann carried on undeterred by the discomfort or the difficulties.

Other Evacuation Hospitals were serving well at this time too. They were served by a faithful group of chaplains. Among them were: Chaplains Anthony H. Hamel and Paul H. Panning with the 15th Evac; Chaplain John G. Wise, who served the 170th Evac, and Chaplain Lester Shackelford, who worked with the 171st Evac. These latter two hospitals came to the Fifth Army sector at the end of the campaign, but served well while here.



MEN OF THE 135 INFANTRY AT WORSHIP

The Circuit Riders

A definite part of the life and work of some of the chaplains in Fifth Army — and of most chaplains at one time or another — was the widespread nature of their parishes. Sometimes and in some cases it was the nature of the service rendered by the unit that required its elements to be scattered far and wide. Among circuit riders of the Fifth Army were the Artillery Chaplains, especially those with the Artillery Groups. For example, there was the 178th Field Artillery Group, with Chaplain Earle W. Crawford, who was awarded the Bronze Star in May 1945, and Chaplain Aubert J. Conlon, who came to the 178th from service in France, early in February 1945. Chaplains Richard W. Jungfer and Chaplain George Higgins of the 77th Field Artillery Group have already been mentioned. The 423rd, Field Artillery Group had Chaplains John F. Beacom and Edward S. Campbell, and the 424th, organized with the 423rd, in August 1944, had Chaplain Harold C. Koch. Towards the end of the campaign there came the 428th Field Artillery Group served by Chaplain John Hays.

The very nature of the group set-up in field artillery is a relationship of far-flung battalions and battery positions. For the Chaplain it meant swinging a wide circuit among little groups of men quartered in tents near their guns, or in a farm house, or a barn, or other protected buildings. The simple altar — or the folding organ — in a room rugged and often cold made the church. Often it meant from fourteen to twenty services in as many places in the course of a single week. But the chaplains never flagged — nor did the men ever fail to bid them welcome.

Strange and paradoxical experiences befell the chaplains as they did their rounds. There was the time when Chaplain John Hayes, of the 32nd Field Hospital, was holding mass in the little chapel that chanced to be within a matter of feet of the emplacements of the nearby Howitzers. These were the guns of the 175th Field Artillery Battalions, whom he was serving as visiting priest. The chapel was filled with men welcoming this first opportunity to worship in some weeks. It was dusk and turning to darkness in the narrow protected valley. Through the windows of the chapel, unlighted but for two small candles, came the periodic blinding flash of the blazing guns, as the building shook with a terrifying roar. The priest was intoning prayers to God for peace while the comrades of the worshipping men were directing their fire towards the enemy.

Among the non-divisional units of Fifth Army were the AAA units, which continued to function with some variation of duties even after the threat of air attack faded. The 630th AA AW Battalion underwent conversion to Military Police duty, just before the advance on Florence.

Their chaplain had been Chaplain Lawrence Hertzog, until the fall of 1944, when he was transferred to service with the 26th QM Group. A vacancy was carried in this unit until just before the end of the Italian Campaign, when Chaplain Earl D. Hunter arrived as replacement, and served with the 630th across the finish line of the war. There was also the 105th AAA AW Bn whose chaplain was Chaplain Clarence T. Molen.

Then there were the 405st and 903rd AAA Gun Battalions, they were served by Chaplain Douglas J. Harris and by Chaplain Victor E. Newman. Chaplain Harris accompanied the 401st to North Africa, Sicily, and Italy. He served with this unit continuously until March 1945, when he was returned to the States for Temporary Duty. Typical of the spirit of the chaplain is what is expressed by a letter written by this chaplain in connection with a possible change from his old outfit to another. He wrote in October, 1944: « I have decided that at least for the present I would like to remain with my outfit. Things have been a little rough up here lately, and last night they got a lot rougher. One of our batteries underwent a pretty severe shelling last night,,,,,, two men were killed and nine were wounded. I went to see the men today, and the way they received me provided enough incentive for me to weather through this task a while longer. One of those wounded was an officer, and even though he was fairly bad off, he managed to call me the « Holy Father », as has been his jovial custom for some time now. One great big Sergeant who has been a favorite of mine for a long time struggled out of the influence of ether long enough to say: « Chaplain, I knew you'd be here to see me today..... I would have bet my last dollar on it..... » And the chaplain concluded his letter: « I can't leave men like this at a time like this, so forget my request for a while. »

The Quartermaster Chaplains had a good bit of circuit riding to do, too. There was Chaplain Carl M. Boyd with the 62nd QM Bn, who was at one time required to travel two hundred miles a week, and preach fourteen services. Circuit riding was not new to Chaplain Boyd for he had formerly served with the 51st Medical Battalion where his weekly rounds compelled him to drive not less than a thousand miles a week.

It was Chaplain William J. Beane's men of the 94th Quartermaster Battalion who supplied bread for the army. The battalion had five bakery companies, and each was a unit of from 90 to 160 men. As a typical set-up of unit locations at one time, the end of the war in Italy found companies of the 94th in Verona, Piacenza, Modena, Bologna, and Isola. It took a lot of range riding for this amiable priest from Rhode Island, to keep in touch with his men, but he delighted in getting around among them — and served a good many other neighboring units in the vicinity as he went along!

Then there was Chaplain Lee Pridgen with the 1338th Engineer Com-

bat Group, who at the end of the war was joined by Chaplain Emil Lang. Many a civilian pastor would stand aghast at the field these men covered, but these army chaplains took it all in stride. Neither rough roads, nor bad weather, nor the prospect of a small congregation deterred them from bringing what blessing they might to the men who were giving their lives, if need be, for the same cause. Similar was the experience shared by other chaplains among the Engineers. For instance, there was the 1108th with Chaplains John B. Murray and Karl W. Scheufler who kept a complete pictorial and historical record of his unit for compilation « when it is over. » The 1168th Engineer Combat Group was served by Chaplain Leslie V. Bernes, who was joined as the war closed by Chaplain Monroe M. Miles, replacing Chaplain Edward N. Bartell. Many an important bridge, or an essential bit of « strada » was rebuilt and maintained by the men of the 175th Engineer General Service Regiment, who were served by Chaplain Cameron C. C. Mosser, of Greensboro, North Carolina. When he was rotated to the states in the fall of 1944, his place was taken by Chaplain William C. Summar who was joined just at the end of the war by Chaplain Louis B. Baznik. The far spread nature of this « parish » is indicated in some part by the fact that at V-Day units were stretched from Montecatini to Bolzano. The 19th Engineer Combat Group had Chaplain James T. Fish, who gained a late associate in Chaplain John A. Cantwell. The Chaplain of the 39th Engineer Combat Group was Chaplain John E. Marshall, whose place after his rotation was finally taken by Chaplain James V. Cleary.

When we take a quick look at Ordnance we find the ministry of Chaplain Francis E. Broyles of the 87th Ordnance Battalion both interesting and in many respects typical. The 87th had charge of the establishing and maintaining of all ammunitions dumps for the entire Fifth Army. In keeping up contact with from 12 to 15 preaching points a week it was often necessary for this chaplain to travel as much as seventy-five miles at one time. Many of the services were held in the field during the winter — or around the tables in a temporary mess, or in the stable of some Italian farm. There was cold and mud. Chaplain Laverne Dodson, from Pennsylvania, served with the 52nd Ordnance Bn, for a couple of months in the spring of 1945. He had come overseas in May 1943, with the 114th Station Hospital, leaving them in February 1945 to come to the 42nd. In the 53rd Ordnance Group there was Chaplain Marian A. Kaleth, from Chicago who came overseas 21 August 1943, and joined the 53rd on 13 December 1943. For only a few days at the end of the war, Chaplain James L. Goodwin was assigned to the 53rd, as associate to Chaplain Kaleth. Chaplain Karl Wuest from Ohio, was chaplain of the 56th Ordnance Group from 8 September 1944, when he was transferred from the 403rd AAA Gun Battalion. He was joined by an associate in

the last days of the war — Chaplain Raymond W. Davis. Chaplain George W. Lair was chaplain of the 73rd Ordnance Bn. from 1 December 1944 till the war's end. He had served with the 337th Engineer Regiment, for nearly two years prior. For about a year, Chaplain Carl H. Linden from Illinois, had served with the 67th Ordnance Battalion. Finally among the Ordnance Chaplains there was William J. Callahan, from Dorchester, Massachusetts, who served with the 403rd AAA Gun Bn. from 21 July 1943 to 15 March 1944, and spent only two months at the last part of the war with the 188th Ordnance Battalion.

The Field Hospitals were another element among the units of Fifth Army that sometimes developed into a wide-sweeping parish for the assigned chaplain. There was, for example, the 32nd Field Hospital, which consisted of three units often in widely separated places. Through the winter and spring in the lull before the final push the three units were spaced across the front. It took a long, long trail of jeep riding for the big smiling Chaplain from Syracuse, Chaplain Jack Hayes, to keep in touch with all his men, and the patients under his care. A sister organization to the 32nd Field Hospital was the 33rd. The spot for one chaplain with the 33rd was filled from 5 April 1944 by Chaplain Mark Lowry. Chaplain Lowry originally came overseas with the 435th AAA AW Battalion. There as the 54th Med. Bn. with Chaplain Gabriel Waraksa, the big, good natured Chaplain who served as good neighbor to the Fifth Army Forward CP at Traversa, during the absence of Chaplain Denis G. Moore. Then there was the 15th Field Hospital whose first chaplain came to it late in the campaign — Chaplain John G. Russel from New York City. He Joined them early in 1945 at Ghiereto, along Highway 65.

Completing the picture of the Medical Units within the Fifth Army as such we find four Medical Battalions: 54th, 161st, 162nd, and 163rd. With each of these units was a Chaplain to serve the personnel and patients. The 54th is mentioned above. Chaplain Rowland C. Adams was with the 161st, until he was transferred to serve with the Fifth Army CP in January 1944. He served with Forward until the winter of 1944-45. His successor with the 161st was Chaplain Albert S. Trickett, who served for a time until 26 May 1944 when he was transferred to the 382nd Port Battalion — a step in the direction of his later assignment as Assistant Theater Chaplain. Chaplain Trickett had served with two other medical and hospital units before coming to Fifth Army. He was succeeded in the 161st by Chaplain William E. Arnold, who had served with the 6th General Hospital, the 66th Station Hospital, and then with the 300th General Hospital.

Chaplain Askine was followed at the 162nd by Chaplain Louis A. White, on 20 April 1945. Chaplain White had served with various units in the air corps — overseas from 3 November 1942. Into the 163rd Med-

ical Battalion came Chaplain Alfred Forni, who arrived early in May 1945.

We find a ministry of particular interest in that of Chaplain Donald T. Bliss, the only Christian Scientist Chaplain to serve with Fifth Army. His first overseas assignment was with the 3142nd Signal Service Group, from its activation in April 1943. His affiliation with Fifth Army began when the 3142nd was assigned to Fifth Army in February 1945. During the first three months of his connection with Fifth Army, he travelled a distance greater than 1200 miles, conducting an average of 10 general services a week.



AN EASTER SERVICE

Added Power

During the winter months some new organizations became part of the Fifth Army. With them came their chaplains, who should be introduced at this time.

92nd DIVISION CHAPLAINS' CORPS.

The 92nd Division had the distinction of being the only colored Division fighting on the Italian front. The Division Chaplain from the beginning was Chaplain Louis J. Beasley, who arrived in Leghorn on October 6, 1944 with Division Headquarters. The Division was preceded in action by one combat team. The 370th Combat Team entered action in August near the Via Reggio Sector. With this team came Chaplains Allen L. Johnson, Hubert C. Jones and Ernest C. Thompson. In November Chaplain Charles G. Blake came to this regiment.

About eight percent of the Division personnel were Catholic, and these were faithfully ministered to by Chaplain William C. Grau. Chaplain George G. Bowser was Assistant Division Chaplain during the period of the 92nd's participation in the Italian Campaign. With the Medical Battalion was Chaplain Clifford B. Spears, while the Division Artillery was served by Chaplains Alfred G. Dunston and Franklin B. Diggs. The 365th Infantry had Chaplains Finis H. Austin, John R. Wesley, James A. Cox and Cajus B. Howell to serve its personnel. The 366th, an attached Regiment, was served by Chaplains Charles Fisher, James A. Edden, and Moses C. Merriweather and the 271st Regiment was served by Chaplains King D. S. Pogue, Douglas F. Hall and General R. Woods.

The task of the Division was to hold the winter line, which lay in a particularly difficult area, since the enemy occupied the bold rugged peaks that fringed the coast from Pisa to the north. Though little or no ground was gained until the spring offensive began, even the holding action was expensive in casualties and the 92nd received a painful baptism of fire, which established them as veterans of action in this war.

Chaplain Beasley received the Bronze Star for heroic action on the first of November. While on his way to the front, Chaplain Beasley was forced to abandon his vehicle when the section of the road on which he was travelling became an enemy artillery target. Seeking cover in a nearby house, he and his assistant were joined by three enlistd men who had also been forced from their vehicle. The immediate area became the object of an intense artillery barrage. One shell struck the corner of the house and seriously wounded the three enlisted men. Chaplain Beasley, with his assistant, extricated the wounded and evacuated them

safely to an aid station. The chaplain's initiative in evacuating the men resulted in saving the lives of two of them.

Another chaplain of the 92nd was decorated with the Silver Star; he was Chaplain Allen W. Johnson. Chaplain Johnson went out in the face of small arms fire to reach a man who was wounded seriously in his fox-hole, which was under direct observation of the enemy. A medical aid man accompanied the chaplain to attend the man's wounds. Then the chaplain lifted the man upon his shoulders and brought him back to safety behind our own lines. It was a few days after this that, continuing his ministry among the men in the lines, the chaplain received the wounds that gained for him the Purple Heart.

The ministry of the chaplains of the 92nd among of their units had the devoted faithfulness that marked the relationship in other outfits throughout the Army. For example, there was the effort made by many of the chaplains to contact the families of the men, not waiting for the day when it might be necessary to be an emissary of bad news. By the spring of 1945, Chaplain Hubert C. Jones had sent out about eight hundred personal letters to the families of men of his battalion in the 370th Infantry. Replies received by the hundreds indicated clearly that a great blessing came from this practice.

There were other colored troops with Fifth Army, supporting the fighting troops in the line in the essential functions of Quartermaster Supply. Such were the 242nd, 249th, and 263rd Quartermaster Service Battalions. With the 242nd was Chaplain Edward A. Freeman. The chaplain of the 249th was Chaplain William A. Dickerson, who served another unit for a year before his assignment with the 249th. Chaplain Samuel D. Greer was assigned to the 263rd Battalion and served there throughout the campaign.

In March 1945 orders came to disband the 366th Infantry Regiment. From the troops thus relieved, were activated the 224th and 226th Engineer General Service Regiments. To serve as chaplains for the 224th were Chaplain Moses Merriweather and Chaplain Lee Cousin. In the 226th Engineer Regiment were Chaplains Charles Fisher and James A. Edden. Among colored engineer units with Fifth Army, there remains to be mentioned the veteran 92nd Engineer General Service Regiment. The chaplain of this unit was Chaplain Exley H. Warely, who reported with them for duty on 30 August 1944. As associate to Chaplain Warely in the 92nd Engineers was Chaplain Theodore R. Daniels.

CHAPLAINS WITH THE 10th MOUNTAIN DIVISION...

During the winter of 1944-45, there was another newcomer division, which was not long in making a name for itself — the 10th Mountain Division. The 10th had been trained in this special type of mountain

warfare and was prepared for the fight in the rugged mountains in Central Italy. Most of the Division landed in battlescarred Naples about January 18th. From Naples the Division came by various routes and methods to the city of Leghorn, where they arrived on 24 January. It was while the 86th Regiment was bivouacked at Leghorn that the first disaster took place. During the period of the late winter thaw, a number of enlisted men were walking about an area which was deemed clear of mines. However, with the thaw the ground had softened, releasing the mines from the protective embrace of the earth. There was a series of deafening explosions, severely wounding a number of the men in the area. With the instinct of one long accustomed to answer the call of the needy, Chaplain Clarence J. Hogan rushed to the rescue, without thought of the danger to himself. Almost immediately he was struck by shrapnel, flying from the exploding mines, and fell mortally wounded. His death occurred on January 6, 1945.

The 86th Regiment, having arrived in combat before the other units of the Division, had already received its baptism of fire, attached to Task Force 45. Chaplain Henry Brendemihl was another of the chaplains of the 86th and accompanied the troops of this unit through these initial experiences. By 2 February the Division had been assembled in final preparation for combat duty at Campo Tizzoro. By February 9 the Forward CP had been set up just behind the critical front, to which the division was assigned, in the town of Lizzano in Belvedere. Within two weeks of their arrival in the combat zone these new troops, full of the freshness and spirit of men who have yet to know the long exhausting weeks and months of combat, were committed to action. The most crucial point in the enemy rampart was high and rugged Mt. Belvedere. The record of how they drove the line forward, supported by troops of the Brazilian Expeditionary Force and the fire of the IV Corps Artillery, is too well known in the annals of the campaign to need review. Here as always the chaplains were in there with the troops.

It was early in this initial action that a collecting station had been set up in a building in the town of Abetia. In the building, which was deemed safe for occupancy and which had been thought cleared of mines and booby traps, were the medical staff and three chaplains with their assistants. During the course of the evening as the wounded were being brought in from the field of battle nearby, the enemy artillery landed a shell just outside the collecting station. The effect of this would have been less serious by far, had the explosion not been sufficient and near enough to set off concealed mines within the building itself. The total effect was such that the entire house was reduced to a heap of rubble. Chaplains Harry Montgomery and William Contino were killed, as were several of the enlisted men. The chaplains' assistants were seriously

wounded; they were Tec 5 John M. Gamache and Tec 5 Bernard Shull. Chaplain Edwin Gomke was also wounded seriously, but returned to duty after a convalescence of some two months. Both Chaplain Montgomery and Chaplain Contino had served with the 87th Infantry and left behind a host of friends.

All of the chaplains of this cocky unit of hard-fighting young men shared in the high morale and fine spirit to which they contributed more than their fair part. When the 10th Mountain arrived in Italy there came to them Chaplain Arthur Osborne, to fill the vacancy as Assistant Division Chaplain. Chaplain Osborne had been with the 1st Armored Division before his assignment to the 10th. Soon afterwards Chaplain William J. Moran was assigned to the Division, coming from PBS Headquarters at Leghorn, after a long period of combat duty with troops in the African and Sicilian campaigns. He was made Division Chaplain and received his Silver Leaves early in the spring. Chaplain Moran brought to his new work a background of experience, drawn from more than thirty months of overseas duty. After the Italian Campaign was completed, Chaplain Moran became Fifth Army Chaplain.

Among the chaplains of the 10th Mountain Division, the sense of comradeship was typical of that prevailing among the best units of the Army. Catching the team spirit from the aggressiveness that moved the whole division, with the spring and vigor of men whose habit of thought and life is the conquest of hard mountains, the chaplains worked together as a team. There was Bill Bell, whose spirit and efforts were recognized by the award of the Bronze Star. The stocky ruddy friendly fellow whose name was Jewell, but whose comrades in arms called « Chappie », to express their feeling for a « good guy ». Chaplain Brendemihl was Hank to as many as military etiquette requirements would allow. There was Chaplain Thomas Cannon, whose fine figure and strong way in the pulpit left a deep impression whenever he spoke. He was not only a preacher, but he was a man's man and a soldier's man. For his conduct in action, he was awarded the Bronze Star in April, just before the campaign in Italy came to its victorious end. When the decorations were given out at about that time too, there were Bronze Stars awarded posthumously to Chaplains Montgomery and Contino. Also in April the Division Chaplain, Chaplain Moran was awarded the Bronze Star.

There were other chaplains on the overseas roster of the 10th Mountain Division. Chaplain Marion H. Fields joined the 85th Regiment in November 1944, just before they got ready to come overseas. Chaplain Forrest Stickler came along with the 85th overseas as did Chaplain Russell Wingert. Chaplain Gary W. Roush served with the medics in the Aleutians before being assigned to the 87th Infantry Regiment. Chaplain William F. Shearin served a short while with the 87th, after a long period

of service as a hospital chaplain in Africa. Then there was Chaplain Thomas F. Coleman, who reported for duty with the 86th Regiment on March 18, 1945, to serve with that unit through the end of the war.

Chaplain Charles W. Gordon distinguished himself as the handy man at the piano. No party or get-together of the men of the 10th ever lacked the inspiriting urge of an artist at the piano. Not only was he good at the piano, but he could tell you about the foxholes, the dirt and could, and the shells exploding nearby, and about death. He and the other chaplains went through all this with their men, and the men knew and loved them with bonds that easy-going sharing can never forge.



PASSOVER SERVICE 310 MED BATTALION

Holy Days - 1945

On the evening of 28 March 1945, at the Fifth Army Rest Center in the heart of the city of Florence, more than four thousand men and women of the Jewish faith met for the Annual Seder Feast, their second in Italy. For four days the whole Rest Center had been turned over to the Jewish soldiers, that all might have the maximum opportunity to attend and enjoy the crowning observance of their year.

At the speakers table were distinguished guests headed by Lieutenant General Lucian K. Truscott, Jr., Brigadier General Don Carleton, Chaplain Patrick J. Ryan, Fifth Army Chaplain, and Major Charles E. Brown, Jr., Assistant Army Chaplain. Chaplain Aaron Paperman, who later became Assistant Army Chaplain, read the service and conducted the proceedings. General Truscott spoke to the assembled soldiers, greeting the vast gathering of Jewish men from all over Fifth Army and from homes all over the United States. As coming within little more than a month of the end of hostilities in the Italian Theater, the whole celebration truly marked a culminating point in the religious life and experience of this segment of the Army.

Seder Feasts were held in a number of other places within the Fifth Army area, such as the one at the 8th Evacuation Hospital. Also there was a Seder Feast at the 16th Evacuation Hospital. The 88th Division Seder Feast was held under the direction of Chaplain Harold Goldfarb, in the ballroom of the Pitti Palace across the Arno in Florence. Chaplain Robert N. Katz presided at a similar gathering for men of the 85th Division. The War had gone far since the High Holy Days of 1943, when a small group of Jewish men met for the first time on European soil at Paestum.

EASTER - 1945.

For the individual soldier, the outlook on Easter 1945 was much more hopeful than that of a year before. The news had definite tones of imminent victory for the Allies. Spring was in the air and there was more cause for rejoicing. Hundreds of services were held throughout the Fifth Army area by its chaplains. Up front some typical services were those held in the 1st Armored and 91st Divisions.

With the First Armored there were forty-three services held. From midnight until daylight Chaplain Anderson visited infantry outfits, giving Easter greetings and having prayer for numerous small groups. In Combat Command A, Chaplain Uhler held a sunrise service and Chaplain Flaherty celebrated Easter Mass. These services, held within a few hundred yards of the German lines, were filmed by newsreel cameramen.

In the 91st Division, Chaplains of the 361st Infantry held front line services just to the east of Livergnano. Division Chaplain Vernon P. Jaeger assisted by Chaplain Jack Bates conducted a very impressive sunrise service on a hilltop, near San Benedetto.

At the Fifth Army forward CP a great sunrise service was conducted by Chaplain Charles E. Brown, Jr. At this service, which was broadcast to the States, Lieutenant General Lucian K. Truscott, Jr. read the Scripture and spoke to the assembled group.. Some miles westward across the ridges of the Apennines, Chaplain Paul Maddox, IV Corps Chaplain, conducted a sunrise service at the base of a great cross on the hillside at Castelluccio. Over eight hundred men attended a service conducted by Chaplain Beasley and Chaplain Jones of the 92nd Division, while at Montecatini Chaplain Sansom of the 38th Evacuation Hospital led his congregation in worship. In the magnificent cathedral at Florence hundreds of men and women in uniform, joined with the multitude of worshippers there, as the Archbishop of Florence celebrated the Easter Mass.

The chaplains of the Fifth Army saw to it that the men had every opportunity to praise the Risen and Victorious Christ on this Easter of 1945.



EASTER 1945

They Also Serve...

No record of any group of Chaplains would be complete without a word of praise and admiration for the unsung heroes of this war — men who travelled by the chaplains' side — the chaplains' Assistants. A history in itself might well be written of their accomplishments. At considerable sacrifice to themselves, because of limited opportunities for advancement, many of them stayed with their chaplains, because they felt that there they could best serve their fellowmen.

Who are these men? Time will not permit us to mention them all by name, but this record of a few speaks out for them all.

There was Tom Donahue, who was decorated for gallantry in action when « as elements of his battalion pushed forward seven men were wounded in a mine field. Two medical aid men attempted to enter the mined area to evacuate them, but one was killed and another severely wounded. Tom cleared a pathway through the field and reached the injured men. He evacuated one man and led little squads through the field three successive times to evacuate the rest safely. » Then four days later Tom was severely wounded after once again he entered a mine field to evacuate casualties. . . . Steve Allyn who within a 24 hour period just north of Rome, on his own initiative, removed three American wounded, four German wounded and brought back five prisoners for good measure! . . . Johnny Flyntz, Bronze Star winner for meritorious service to his country. . . . Johnny Adler, who did outstanding work when he was Chaplains' Assistant, without a chaplain! . . . Floyd Ward, wounded in action while moving forward with his chaplain. . . . Tommy Shields, killed in action, while serving his country and his God.

The Fifth Army Chaplains salute these brave and God-fearing men — their assistants!



Lt. GENERAL LUCIAN K. TRUSCOTT ATTENDS V-E THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT FIFTH
ARMY HEADQUARTERS ARMY CHAPLAIN READS PRAYER

The Chaplains enter the “Promised Land,,

All winter long the chaplains of Fifth Army had looked out, from the hillsides of the Apennines, onto the Po Valley and had wondered what it was like. Once the Fifth Army had decided to attack, it did not take long to find out. When the blow came in the spring of '45 the Germans lasted exactly twenty-three days.

The drive was launched 9 April by the Eighth Army on the right and by the 92nd Division on the left. Fighting with the 92nd Infantry Division were the 442nd Infantry Regiment and the 473rd Infantry Regiment. Let us mention the chaplains who were serving with these regiments.

THE 442nd INFANTRY.

The Regimental Chaplain was Chaplain Israel Yost, who had served long with the 100th Battalion, now a part of the regiment. With him were two chaplains of racial kinship with these men of Japanese-American parentage, who had fought so courageously during the Italian Campaign. They were Chaplains Masao Yamada and Hiro Higuchi, both ordained ministers of the Congregational-Christian Church. Some measure of the fruitfulness of Chaplain Yost's ministry among the men of the 442nd may be drawn from the list of names of those whom he baptized on Easter Day 1945: Minoru Harada, Noboru Ashida, Dan Uchimoto, George Mirjama, Yohey Yonehiro, and Tsutomu Matsumoto.

473rd INFANTRY REGIMENT.

Also with the 92nd Division in this fast hard-hitting push up to Genoa was the 473rd Infantry Regiment. Chaplains with this unit were: Chaplains William Pixley, Johnnie Joyce and Kenneth McDaniels, these men had gone through readjustments that led to the forming of the 473rd Infantry out of converted AAA units. Chaplain Pixley had a long overseas record and came to this outfit with an extensive background of combat service. Chaplain Joyce in recognition of the distinguished character of his service, had already received the Legion of Merit. Chaplain McDaniels also had been awarded the Legion of Merit for long and faithful service.

Chaplains effected by the conversion of AAA units were: Chaplain Frederick S. Zeller, who was transferred to the 1st Armored Division, where he was recognized as an outstanding combat chaplain; Chaplain Harold C. Koch, holder of an Algerian decoration, and Chaplain Carl Spaude.

ATTACK ON THE CENTRAL FRONT.

A week later the men of the Fifth Army forces attacked. In quick succession Bologna, Modena, Ferrara, Verona and Venice fell to the men

who had fought for nineteen months to reach the Po Valley - « The Promised Land ». All Divisions were in on the final « push ».

Now the chaplains saw a new kind of action. There was action all over the Army Area. Chaplain Anderson lost his jeep, trailer and nearly all his equipment during one of the drives. Even though things were going well, many men were wounded and killed. Chaplain Lenk, of the 91st Division, recalls an experience: « The forward Aid Station was set up in a stable, where the wounded were cared for amidst constant shelling. The medics brought in one man on a litter and set it on the floor. As the doctor examined him and called for blood plasma, I noticed a blood-soaked bandage around his throat. When the man recognized the chaplain kneeling next to him, he smiled and gave me his fountain pen. I did not grasp the situation, so the doctor whispered to me: « He has lost his voice and wants to write a note ». I gave him a piece of paper and he wrote: « Padre, tell my wife and baby I love them. I am not afraid to die. » Throughout the Army the chaplains continued to have similar experiences until 2 May 1945, when the German Armies in Italy and part of Austria surrendered. The chaplains thanked God that they were still alive and were able to continue His work.

THE VICTORY IN EUROPE SERVICE.

May 9, 1945 was declared V-E day and services of thanksgiving were planned throughout the Army, for that day and the following Sunday. These services thanked God for victory and honored the men who had given their lives in the service of our country. Typical of these services was the one held at the Fifth Army Command Post.

At the order of the Commanding General, the combined troops of all the headquarters units were drawn up in the area beside the General's Quarters, on a grassy plot, highly suitable for the purpose. As some two thousand men and women, in the uniform they had worn through the long months of the furious campaign, were drawn up in formation, the chaplains of the Headquarters, representing the three Faiths led in Prayers of Invocation, expressing for the members of their faith the petitions and expressions of thanks appropriate to the occasion. Chaplain Patrick J. Ryan led, and was followed by Chaplain Aaron Paperman and Chaplain David L. Coddington. Following the Invocations, the Commanding General, Lieutenant General Lucian K. Truscott, Jr., spoke words of deep feeling to the men and women of his Command, expressing his pride in their achievements, and challenging them to carry on to final victory.

With the playing of the National Anthem by the Headquarters Band, the ceremony was over. Beautifully and with impressive simplicity it had somehow put a formal finish on the marvelous, God-given success.

Chaplains who served with the Fifth Army

ABBOTT, Harry P.	United Brethren	BROWN, Charles E. Jr	Methodist
ACKERMAN, Edgar E.	Methodist	BROWN, Joe L., Jr.	Episcopal
ADAMS, Noel T.	Disc of Christ	BROWN, Marvin D.	Cong-Christ
ADAMS, Rowland C.	Congregational	BROWN, Jordan E.	Roman Catholic
ALBUS, Leslie	Baptist	BROYLES, Francis E.	Baptist, South
ALSPAUGH, Robert E.	Brethren	BURDICK, Lyle L.	Methodist
ALSTON, Robert H.	Baptist, South	BURKHART, Vernon M.	Disc of Christ
ALTHAUS, W. John	Lutheran	BURNS, Bernard E.	Roman Catholic
AMES, Kenneth L.	Baptist, North	BYRNE, Sydney S.	Cong-Christ
ANDERSON, Clarence F.	Presbyterian	CAHILL, Cornelius F.	Roman Catholic
ANDERSON, Wilber K.	Methodist	CAIN, Lillion W.	Baptist, South
ANDREWS, Fred E.	Disc of Christ	CALLAHAN, William J.	Roman Catholic
ANDRYSIAK, Timothy M.	Roman Catholic	CAMPBELL, Edward S.	Presbyterian, US
ANSLEY, James B.	Methodist	CANNON, Thomas B.	Roman Catholic
ARBUTHNOT, Charles V., Jr.	Presbyterian US	CANTWELL, John A.	Roman Catholic
ARMSTRONG, William T.	Nazarene	CARNAN, Charles W., Jr. . . .	Episcopal
ARNOLD, William E.	Episcopal	CARNEY, Alousius S.	Roman Catholic
ASKINE, Irvin	Uresbyterian US	CARPENTER, Alton E.	Baptist, South
AUSTIN, Finis H.	Baptist USA	CARPER, John H.	Methodist
BAILEY, Irwin C.	Evangelical	CARRAWAY, James L.	Methodist
BARACK, Nathan A.	Jewish	CASADY, Phineas M.	Episcopal
BARNES, Leslie V.	Roman Catholic	CASHMAN, Neil S.	Roman Catholic
BARRICK, Milford D.	United Brethren	CHANDLER, Warren M.	Cong-Christ
BARRONS, James G.	United Presbyterian	CHASE, Richard H.	Christian Science
BARRS, William K.	Methodist	CHATAIGNON, Marius S.	Roman Catholic
BARRY, Harold G.	Salvation Army	CHUNN, Floyd H.	Baptist, South
BARRY, Joseph D.	Roman Catholic	CLARK, Paul, J.	Baptist, South
BARTELL, Edward N.	Lutheran	CLEARY, James V.	Roman Catholic
BARTLEY, Thomas A.	Roman Catholic	CLUNE, James P.	Roman Catholic
BASHAW, William N.	Presbyterian	COCHRAN, Frank B.	Baptist, South
BATES, Jack W.	Church of Christ	CODDINGTON, David L.	Presbyterian, US
BAZNIK, Louis B.	Roman Catholic	COLEMAN, Thomas F.	Roman Catholic
BAZZELL, Robert S.	Baptist, South	CONLON, Aubert J.	Roman Catholic
BEACOM, John F.	Roman Catholic	CONNELL, Anthony J.	Roman Catholic
BEANE, William J.	Roman Catholic	CONNELLY, Matthew J.	Roman Catholic
BEASLEY, Louis J.	Cong-Christ	CONNORS, Edward T.	Roman Catholic
BELBER, Christopher	Roman Catholic	COPELAND, James M.	Methodist
BELL, Harvey F.	Baptist, South	COPELAND, Raymond E.	Roman Catholic
BELL, William H.	Baptist, South	CORL, Claude H.	Evangelical
BERTRAM, Arnold H.	Lutheran, Mo	COX, James A.	Baptist, USA
BEYENKA, John T.	Roman Catholic	COX, Ben W.	Baptist, South
BICKET, Willard A.	Cong-Christ	CRAWFORD, Earle W.	Presbyterian, USA
BISSINGER, Donald C.	Methodist	CROWLEY, Leo P.	Roman Catholic
BLAISDELL, Darius O.	Baptist, South	CONTINO, William S.	Roman Catholic
BLAKE, Charles C.	Methodist, AME	COUSIN, Lee A.	AME
BLISS, Donald T.	Chirstian Science	DAHLEN, Johan B.	Lutheran
BOJCUN, Arthur J.	Roman Catholic	DAHLKE, Victor W.	Lutheran (Mo Sy)
BOLAND, Carroll M.	Roman Catholic	DAIB, Walter C.	Lutheran (Mo Sy)
BOLDING, James T.	Baptist, South	DAILEY, Berry J.	Baptist, South
BOLIN, Luke	Disc of Christ	DALEIDEN, Joachim A.	Roman Catholic
BOMHOFF, Howard F.	Lutheran	DANIELS, Theodore R.	Baptist, Ntl.
BONNER, Francis C.	Roman Catholic	DANIEL, Eugene L.	Presbyterian
BORAH, Harry A.	Baptist, South	DAVIS, Laurence R.	Methodist
BORDERS, William D.	Roman Catholic	DAVIS, Richie L.	Disc of Christ
BOWSER, George G.	Methodist, AME	DAVISON, Alexander K.	Presbyterian
BOYD, Carl M.	Disc of Christ	DAY, Richard W.	Episcopal
BRACKEN, Thomas B.	Roman Catholic	DEERY, Lawrence E.	Roman Catholic
BRANHAM, Lee, Jr.	Methodist	DEMARS, Edward J.	Roman Catholic
BRAUN, John E.	Lutheran	DICKERSON, William A.	Baptist, USA
BRENDEMIHL, Henry E.	Episcopal	DICKINSON, William H., Jr. . .	Methodist
BRINK, Eben C.	Presbyterian, US	DIGGS, Franklin B.	Presbyterian, USA
BRISTOW, Henry C.	Baptist, North	DISTANT, Lewis E.	Congregational
BROWN, Charles B.	Presbyterian, US	DIXON, James W.	Baptist, South

DODSON, LaVere	Methodist	GUENETTE, Alfred J.	Roman Catholic
DOHERTY, George W.	Presbyterian, US	GUPTON, Bennett L.	Baptist
DOLATA, Thaddeus T.	Roman Catholic	GUZICKI, Aloysius C.	Roman Catholic
DONAHUE, Edward T.	Baptist, North	HAGAN, Clarence J.	Roman Catholic
DORFLEIN, William J.	Roman Catholic	HAIRE, David H.	Baptist, South
DOYLE, Basil J.	Roman Catholic	HALE, Wallace M.	Baptist, South
DRURY, Goldman S.	Baptist, South	HALL, Douglass F.	Baptist, Ntl.
DUIGNAN, Peter	Roman Catholic	HALL, Harris T.	Episcopal
DULIN, James H.	Presbyterian	HALL, Warren R., Jr.	Presbyterian, US
DUNSTON, Alfred C., Jr.	AME - Zion	HAMEL, Anthony H.	Roman Catholic
DURDEN, Lewis M.	Baptist, USA	HAMILTON, Kenneth L.	Presbyterian
DWYER, Robert J.	Roman Catholic	HAMMER, Virgil V.	Evangelical
DYRESON, Delmar L.	United Lutheran	HANKEY, William G.	Lutheran
DZURO, John M.	Presbyterian, USA	HARRELL, Notley R.	Baptist, South
EDDEN, James A.	Episcopal	HARRIS, Douglas J.	Baptist, South
EDGAR, Fred R.	Methodist	HAYES, John A.	Roman Catholic
EELS, Earnest E.	Presbyterian, USA	HAYS, Earl C., Jr.	Church of Christ
ENGLISH, Michael I.	Roman Catholic	HAYS, John R.	Presbyterian, US
ESCOE, Lindsey J.	Methodist	HAYWARD, Harold D.	Baptist, North
ESSIG, Robert C.	Roman Catholic	HAZEN, Clarence A.	Congregational
ESTES, William B.	Methodist	HEGARTY, Malachy J.	Roman Catholic
FABER, William A.	Roman Catholic	HENLEY, Odus T.	Baptist, South
FARRELL, Thomas L.	Roman Catholic	HENRY, F. Bernard	Methodist
FAY, Patrick B.	Roman Catholic	HERTZOG, Lawrence	Baptist, South
FENTON, Bernard J.	Roman Catholic	HIGGINS, George A.	Roman Catholic
FENTON, Francis B.	Roman Catholic	HIGUCHI, Hiro	Cong-Christ
FIELDS, Marion H.	Baptist, South	HOEHN, Martin C.	Roman Catholic
FISH, Francis J.	Roman Catholic	HOFFMAN, Albert J.	Roman Catholic
FISH, James T.	Episcopal	HOLBROOK, Tim W.	Methodist
FISHER, Charles	Cong-Christ	HOOD, George F.	Methodist
FITZPATRICK, Stephen J.	Roman Catholic	HOOVER, Elmer B.	Church of Brethren
FLAHERTY, James L.	Roman Catholic	HORNE, Chevis F.	Baptist, South
FLANAGAN, Francis B.	Roman Catholic	HOWELL, Caius B.	AME Zion
FLEMING, James A.	Roman Catholic	HOWELL, Willie F.	Methodist
FLYNN, Fabian P.	Roman Catholic	HUGHES, John P.	Roman Catholic
FLYNN, James P.	Roman Catholic	HUNTER, Earl D.	Nazarene
FOLEY, Francis J.	Episcopal	JACKSON, Clarence E.	Baptist, North
FOLEY, Ronan	Roman Catholic	JAEGER, Vernon P.	Baptist, North
FORNI, Alfred R.	Roman Catholic	JANKOWSKI, Arthur J.	Roman Catholic
FORTUNE, Allen E.	Presbyterian	JASINSKI, Alvin J.	Roman Catholic
FRANCIS, Charles A.	Baptist, South	JEHN, Ernst J. C.	Lutheran (Mo Sy)
FRANKLIN, Forrest T.	Baptist, South	JENKINS, Daniel P.	Baptist, South
FRANTZ, Ira W.	Evang-Reformed	JENKINS, John M.	Presbyterian, USA
FREEMAN, Edward A.	Baptist, Ntl.	JENKINS, Thomas A.	Presbyterian
GAGE, Ward E.	Baptist, North	JEWELL, Fred J.	Baptist, South
GAISER, George E.	Evang-Reformed	JOHNSON, Allen L.	Methodist
GAMBLE, Tuttle J., Jr.	Baptist, South	JONES, James L.	Methodist
GARRISON, Samuel T.	Baptist, South	JONES, Guy C.	Methodist
GILMORE, Frank	Methodist	JONES, Hubert C.	Methodist
GILMORE, Joseph A.	Roman Catholic	JONES, Nathaniel S.	Baptist, Ntl.
GIULIANO, Anniellio H.	Baptist, North	JOYCE, Johnie L.	Methodist
GODFREY, Cornelius A.	Roman Catholic	JUNGFER, Richard W., Jr.	Evang-Reformed
GOLDFARB, Harold	Jewish	KELETH, Marian A.	Roman Catholic
GOMKE, Edwin C.	Congregational	KATZ, Robert L.	Jewish
GOODWIN, James L.	Church of God	KAUTZ, George W.	Lutheran (Mo Sy)
GORDON, Charles W.	Roman Catholic	KAZIS, Israel J.	Jewish
GOULD, Everett W.	Cong-Christ	KANT, Stephen W.	Roman Catholic
GRAPATKIN, John W.	Lutheran (Mo Sy)	KELLEY, Byron E.	Methodist
GRAU, William C.	Roman Catholic	KEENAN, Peter J.	Roman Catholic
GREER, Samuel D.	Church of Christ	KENDALL, William M.	Presbyterian, USA
GRIESSEL, Albert C., Jr.	Lutheran	KENNEDY, Gregory R.	Roman Catholic
GRIFFIN, Martin J.	Roman Catholic	KENNEY, John L.	Roman Catholic
GRIFFIN, Victor R.	Disc of Christ	KERR, Wilbur J.	Presbyterian, US
GRIFFITH, George C.	Baptist, South	KERTZER, Morris N.	Jewish
GRIMES, Lewis A.	Methodist	KILBURN, John W.	Baptist, South
GROVE, Samuel A. C.	Methodist	KINES, Louis B.	Roman Catholic

KING, William E.	Baptist, South	MILLICAN, Burr	Baptist, South
KIPPENBROCK, Michael J.	Episcopal	MOEHRING, John W.	Lutheran (Mo)
KOCH, Harold C.	Methodist	MOLEN, Clarence T.	Congregational
KIRKPATRICK, James E.	Baptist, South	MONTGOMERY, Harry	Lutheran
KOPROWSKI, Mitchell J.	Roman Catholic	MOORE, Denis G.	Roman Catholic
KOZAK, Edwin J.	Roman Catholic	MORAN, William J.	Roman Catholic
KOZIKOWSKI, Paul H.	Roman Catholic	MOSSER, Cameron D. L.	Presbyterian, USA
KUEHL, Delbert A.	Baptist, South	MULDER, Johan	Reformed, American
KUMM, Karl G.	Episcopal	MURPHY, Brian T.	Roman Catholic
LACKEY, Dudley C.	Methodist	MURPHY, Edward C.	Roman Catholic
LAIR, George W.	Baptist, South	MURPHY, Fintan A.	Roman Catholic
LAIRD, William H.	Episcopal	MURPHY, Henry J.	Roman Catholic
LAMB, Frederick G., Jr.	Roman Catholic	MURPHY, Kenneth	Cong-Christ
LAMMERT, Fred R.	Lutheran (Mo)	MURPHY, Preston P.	Roman Catholic
LANGFORD, Lloyd E.	Nazarene	MURRAY, John B.	Roman Catholic
LANG, Emil C.	Roman Catholic	NELSON, Lawrence N.	Baptist, South
LARSON, Leland R.	Lutheran (Mo)	NEWMAN, Victor E.	Episcopal
LATHROP, John W.	Methodist	NEWMAN, Walter T.	Congregational
LEE, Robert H. C.	AME Zion	NIEDERMAIER, Joseph F.	Roman Catholic
LEE, Robert S.	Methodist	NOLAN, Thomas F.	Roman Catholic
LEHNE, Christian A.	Methodist	O'BRIEN, William J.	Roman Catholic
LEITH, Yoder P.	Presbyterian, USA	O'CONNELL, Joseph P.	Roman Catholic
LENAHAN, Arthur C.	Roman Catholic	O'CONNOR, William V.	Roman Catholic
LENK, Joseph A.	Roman Catholic	O'HARA, Christopher E.	Roman Catholic
LEWIS, Earl C.	Disc of Christ	OLSCHEWSKE, John A.	Presbyterian, USA
LIGGITT, Oliver E.	Presbyterian, USA	OSBORNE, Arthur R.	Presbyterian, USA
LINDEN, Carl H.	Methodist	PANNING, Paul H.	Lutheran (Mo)
LORENZ, Orville A.	Brethren	PAPERMAN, Aaron	Jewish
LOSZEWSKI, Chester T.	Roman Catholic	FEARCE, Arthur B., Jr.	Methodist
LOWRY, Mark	Baptist, South	PEDERSEN, Laurits H.	Lutheran
LOY, Leland L.	Methodist	PHELPS, Woodrow W.	Baptist, South
LUCKETT, Winter B.	Roman Catholic	PHILLIPS, William C.	Presbyterian (Cumber.)
LUEDKE, Henry W. C.	Lutheran (Mo)	PHINNEY, Herbert A.	Roman Catholic
LYNCH, John P.	Roman Catholic	PIERCE, Isaiah B.	African ME Zion
MACCOMBIE, Herbert E.	Baptist, North	PINKARD, Calvin M.	Methodist
MACIEJEWSKI, Edward F.	Roman Catholic	PIXLEY, William H.	Roman Catholic
MADDEN, Thomas E.	Roman Catholic	FOGUE, King D. S.	Presbyterian, USA
MADDOX, Paul J.	Baptist, South	POLLACK, Andrew J.	Roman Catholic
MANLEY, Thomas J.	Roman Catholic	POOLE, LaVerne S.	Baptist, North
MARKEN, DeLoss I.	Disc of Christ	POWER, John J.	Roman Catholic
MARLEAU, Floyd J.	Roman Catholic	PRESSLY, Henry E.	Presbyterian
MARSHALL, John E.	United Lutheran	PRIDGEN, Lee	Baptist, South
MARSTON, Arthur C.	Church of God in NA	PRONOBIS, Andrew M.	Roman Catholic
MARTIN, Edward R.	Roman Catholic	PROPST, Cecio L.	Lutheran
MARTINEAU, Charles D.	Roman Catholic	PRYOR III, Francis J.	Episcopal
MATHENY, Robert A.	Disc of Christ	QUINLIVAN, George T.	Roman Catholic
MAXWELL, William P.	Presbyterian, USA	QUINN, Harry J.	Roman Catholic
McAVOY, Ambrose A.	Roman Catholic	RALEY, LeRoy W.	Baptist, South
McCARTHY, Francis W.	Roman Catholic	RALEY, Perry T.	Baptist, South
McCLELLAND, George D.	Baptist, North	RAY, David T.	Roman Catholic
McDANIEL, Harley R.	Methodist	RAY, Earl E.	Baptist, North
McGRANN, Aloysius P.	Cong-Christ	RECTOR, Franklin E.	Disc of Christ
McGEE, Harry F.	Baptist	REICHLING, Joseph P.	Roman Catholic
McGONEGLE, John A.	Roman Catholic	REID, William J.	Methodist
McGRANN, Alovsius P.	Roman Catholic	REINBOTH, Oscar H.	Lutheran (Mo)
McLORAIN, John A.	Roman Catholic	RIBNER, Herbert	Jewish
McMillan, Carl V.	Methodist	RICE, Vernon W.	Congregational
McPARTLAND, Peter J.	Roman Catholic	RIDAY, George E.	Baptist
McSWEEN, Allen C.	Presbyterian, USA	RIDDLE, George L.	Presbyterian, USA
MEHL, Lambert J.	Lutheran (Mo)	ROEMER, Bernard F.	Roman Catholic
MERRIWEATHER, Moses C.	Methodist CME	ROGERS, Edward K.	United Lutheran
MILES, Monroe M.	Disc of Christ	ROGNESS, Burnis M.	Lutheran
MILLER, Emmett E., Jr.	Episcopal	ROLF, Robert F.	Lutheran (Mo)
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RYAN, Patrick J.	Roman Catholic	UHLER, James R.	Disc of Christ
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SHARP, Joseph C.	Methodist	WALTON, Richard E.	Methodist
SHEARIN, William F.	Baptist, North	WARAKSA, Gabriel B.	Roman Catholic
SHERRY, George E.	Roman Catholic	WARLEY, Exley H.	AME
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SHUMAN, James R.	Baptist, South	WATERS, Edward J.	Roman Catholic
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TAVEL, Henry	Jewish	ZALDIVAR, Manuel J.	Presbyterian
TEEM, Arvil E.	Baptist, South	ZEITZ, Seraph W.	Roman Catholic
TEMPLE, Elwood L.	Presbyterian, USA	ZELLER, Frederick S.	Presbyterian
TEPPER, Irving	Jewish	ZOERNER, William A.	Presbyterian
THOMPSON, Ernest E.	Baptist, National		

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